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Amir appoints Sheikh Saad to form new government

KUWAIT, June 13, (Kuna): An Amir order was issued today appointing HH the Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah, who presented the resignation of his cabinet yesterday, as Prime Minister.

HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah asked Sheikh Saad to form a new government and present the names of its members to the Amir for issuing a decree appointing them.

Sheikh Saad has held the premiership since 1978. Voters chose 50 deputies on Sunday for a National Council, the first elected since Parliament was dissolved in 1986. The Amir will appoint 25 other deputies.

The four-year council has been entrusted with drawing up guidelines for a future Parliament. The names of the new cabinet members are

expected to be announced next week. Kuwait is the first member of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), which also groups Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the United Arab Emirates, to go ahead with national elections.

Diplomats here predicted no change in the key portfolios of foreign affairs, defence and interior, which are traditionally reserved for members of the

ruling family. The ruler was expected to include new cadres on the list, particularly technocrats, to help this ambitious country, which has more than 75 billion barrels of oil reserves and about \$100 billion of foreign investments, to achieve "a qualitative shift to the decade of the 1990s and from there into the 21st century."

This is a slogan sponsored personally by the

Amir. Diplomats said one of the key obsessions of the new government would be the reactivation of a stagnant national economy and tying up the loose ends from a 1982 stock market crash. Kuwait, a country of vast wealth based on oil, and only 1.7 million people, has known parliamentary politics as part of life since independence in 1961.

Polls to elect 50 of the 75 deputies were not held on a party basis — political parties are banned under a 1962 constitution — and none of the 348 contestants advocated anything resembling an election platform.

"It was mostly 'I love Kuwait' and 'I want to serve my country' for all candidates," commented one Western diplomat.

ARGENTINA OUTPLAY SOVIET UNION 2-0; SPAIN HOLD URUGUAY TO GOALLESS DRAW

Ministry rejects 'strike threats'

KUWAIT, June 13, (Kuna): A ranking Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour official today said Kuwait unequivocally rejects the style of threat made by the unions of petroleum sector workers in order to get certain benefits.

Assistant undersecretary for technical affairs at the ministry and acting assistant undersecretary for labour affairs Abdullah Gholoum Hussein said this style is considered an unjustifiable violation for the regulations and laws.

Hussein was answering a question posed by Kuna on the intention of the union to launch a strike on June 17 and the role played by the ministry to mediate between the unions and the Kuwait Petroleum Corporation and Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) in order to resolve the issue in a fraternal way.

He added that the ministry has recently received three cables from the Union of the Kuwait Oil Tankers Company, the KNPC workers union chairman and the head of the Workers Union of the Petro-Chemical Industries Company which said that they decided to launch an all-out strike on June 17 because the KPC did not rescind its decision on reducing the annual raise.

He also said that these unions did not ask for any initiative by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour though these unions are carrying out their activities under the ministry's supervision. The official said that article 88 of the labour law for the private sector defines clearly the three basic procedures for labour dispute.

(Continued on Page 10)

'Continue embargo'

UNITED NATIONS, June 13, (Kuna): Kuwait said yesterday the world community must not lift the oil embargo and other sanctions against South Africa until the people there have decided for themselves that internal developments justify such action.

"It is incumbent on the international community to preserve its credibility and to stand by the people of South Africa until they themselves decide that a certain stage of development inside South Africa was reached to warrant lifting the sanctions," said Kuwaiti delegate Nabeha Al Mulla.

(Continued on Page 10)

Manila bill bans mail-order brides

MANILA, June 13, (AP): President Corason Aquino today signed into law a bill on schemes to use the mail to offer Filipino women as brides to foreigners.

Aquino said the new law, passed by congress, prohibits "commerce in women under the guise of legitimate marriage."

The new law, among other things, bans establishment of a mail-order bride business and the printing and distribution of material promoting such businesses.

It also declares unlawful the "solicitation or inducement" of Filipino women to become members of any club or association whose objective is to match women with foreign nationals for marriage either on a mail-order bride basis or through personal introductions for a fee.

(See also Page 6)

Fundamentalists sweep Algerian polls



Algerian fundamentalist leader Abdel Madani waves to a crowd of followers in Algiers after his party captured a majority of municipal and provincial assemblies in polls. (Reuters wirephoto)

'Shock, for ruling FLN

Dissolve house demand

ALGIERS, June 13, (Agencies): Algeria confirmed today a sweeping upset victory by Muslim fundamentalists over the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) in the first free elections since independence yesterday.

But Interior Minister Mohamed Salah Mohammedi said full results of the polls for provincial and municipal assemblies would not be released until Thursday.

"The counting confirms the tendency expressed last night, that is a preponderance of the FIS (Islamic Salvation Front), followed by the FLN," he said.

Of 612 municipalities counted, the FIS had won 327 or 53 per cent, the FLN 208 or 34 per cent and Rally for Culture and Democracy (RDC), a centre-left party led by ethnic Berbers, had won 51 or eight per cent.

A total of 1,541 municipal assemblies and 277 provincial assemblies had been contested by 10 opposition parties and hundreds of independents.

The fundamentalist triumph followed 28 years of FLN one-party rule marked by charges of corruption and economic mismanagement. It was bound to send shock waves throughout the Middle East and across the Mediterranean, diplomats said.

FIS spokesman Abbasi Madani told a news conference he would shortly meet with authorities with whom he wanted to discuss the dissolution of Parliament, the next step in the fundamentalist drive to build an Islamic state.

Parliament now consists

entirely of FLN delegates and is not due for re-election until 1992.

Madani said the FIS had no desire to unseat President Chadli Benjedid, who is also FLN president. Chadli was elected to a third five-year term in 1988.

Mohammedi did not identify the municipalities won by the FIS but asked if they included the major cities of Algiers, Annaba and Constantine, he replied, "the big cities saw a FIS majority and not just the ones you named."

He confirmed a relatively high abstention rate of 40 per cent, which officials and analysts said had helped the FIS.

Algerians reacted with shock, fear and jubilation to the results. One prominent Algerian feminist leader, convinced the FIS will curb women's rights and employment, burst into tears.

"Will we be able to go out tomorrow?" she cried.

Young FIS supporters drove a convoy of cars through central Algiers honking horns in a victory parade.

Far-right French leader Jean-Marie Le Pen warned today of an Algerian exodus to France after a fundamentalist victory in local elections.

"This is the event of the decade," Le Pen told Reuters in this eastern city where he was attending a European parliamentary session.

Former Algerian president Ahmed Ben Bella called for the resignation of Algeria's government and for early national elections after the ruling Front's defeat.

Tehran to bar Iraqi frigates from Gulf

NICOSIA, June 13, (Reuters): Iran's top admiral said yesterday the navy would soon base submarines on the approach to the Strait of Hormuz and warned Iraq against trying to sail new warships through the strait.

Navy commander Rear Admiral Ali Shamkhani said the submarines would have equipment bought from an unnamed foreign country and crews for the vessels were now being trained in the same country.

"Once the fleet joins the Islamic Republic's naval force, the navy will extend its mission deep into international waters," Shamkhani said in an interview with the daily Ettela'at.

He said the submarines, to be based at Chabahar on the Gulf of Oman, "will add to our superiority over the whole Gulf and complete control of the Hormuz Strait."

Shamkhani warned Iraq, that Iran would prevent any attempt to sail Italian-built warships into the Gulf through the Strait of Hormuz.

"International laws at sea do not allow Iraq to do this, and if Iraq wants to sail the frigates through the Hormuz Strait, we naturally have rights, which we will exercise in the no-war-no-peace situation," he said.

In April, Italy authorised the delivery of 11 Corvettes and frigates which Iraq ordered in 1981. Delivery had been blocked by an arms embargo imposed during the Gulf war.

The two sides stopped fighting in August 1988 under a UN-mediated ceasefire but have yet to agree a comprehensive peace.

There's nothing to discuss: Shamir

US raps Israeli conditions for talks with Palestinians

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 13, (Agencies): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir further toughened Israel's conditions for peace talks with Palestinians today but offered a conciliatory gesture at the United Nations to relieve US pressure.

"There is nothing to discuss with those among the Palestinian Arab circles who are opposed to autonomy. There is nothing to discuss with them," Shamir told the Jerusalem Post.

"... I want to make clear that a dialogue between Israel and Arab representatives of Judea, Samaria and Gaza cannot succeed without prior agreement to advance within the framework of Camp David (peace accords with Egypt), that is autonomy," he said, using Israel's biblical names for the West Bank.

In Washington, US Secretary of State James Baker sharply criticised conditions laid down by Israel's new right-wing government for talks with Palestinians and said there would be no peace in the Middle East if Israel persisted in that attitude.

Using tough language, Baker told the House Foreign Affairs Committee that keeping a peace initiative alive required "some really good-faith affirmative effort on the part of our friends in Israel (because) the United States of America can't make it happen."

He gave out the telephone number of the White House — 1-202-456-1414 — and told Israel: "When you're serious about peace, call us."

Baker, noting reports of new Israeli conditions for peace talks with Palestinians, told the committee: "Now if that's going to be the approach, and that's going to be the attitude there won't be any dialogue and there won't be any peace."

In New York, Israel informed UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar it would allow his assistant to visit the occupied territories, dropping a blanket refusal to let any UN mission study ways to protect the 1.75 million Arab residents.

Political sources said the move was a gesture to the United States, which vetoed a UN Security Council resolution to send a fact-finding team two weeks ago.

Far-right Parliamentarian Rehavam Zeevi, whose two-seat Mokedet faction gave Shamir's cabinet its majority on Monday, attacked the concession as "the government's first surrender."

Israel's relations with its guardian superpower have been strained since Shamir refused in March to accept UN proposals for the first-ever peace talks with Palestinians in Cairo, causing the breakup of his national unity government.

New Foreign Minister David Levy, who voted against Israel's plan for Palestinian elections when it was adopted last year, declined to say clearly at a handover ceremony whether he now supported the initiative.

He would only say: "I support advancing the peace process as it was agreed in Camp David. I support meeting Palestinian residents of Judea, Samaria and Gaza. I support freely examining with them the advancement of peace."

Levy said the United States would first have to make clear that it opposed a Palestinian state and would not force or impose the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on Israel.

The new government's policy guidelines say Israel will not negotiate directly or indirectly with the PLO, an apparent bid to bar PLO influence on negotiators from the occupation zone.



Worst violence

One person was killed and 33 injured on Wednesday, the Romanian government said, in the worst violence to hit Bucharest since the overthrow of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu last December.

A health ministry statement said one civilian was killed. Ten civilians and 23 police were injured. Witnesses said thousands of demonstrators had stormed the compound of the Romanian television headquarters and set fire to Bucharest's police headquarters.

The government accused protesters of trying to stage a coup on Wednesday.

The national television station went off the air after

demonstrators stormed the television headquarters. In a statement, President Ion Iliescu said: "We are facing an organised attempt to remove by force and violence the country's elected leaders."

State radio, in another building, stayed on the air. One person was killed and 10 civilians and 23 police were injured in a day of violence in central Bucharest, the government said.

The city's police headquarters was set on fire and the interior ministry attacked, Iliescu said.

Guns were seized in the attacks, he added.

(Earlier story Page 9)

Tigers ignore truce, battle govt troops

COLOMBO, June 13, (AP): Tamil guerrillas battled government troops in northern and eastern Sri Lanka today, ignoring a ceasefire both sides had agreed to, residents and military officials said.

Unconfirmed reports reaching Colombo said the Tamil Tigers rebels yesterday massacred 125 to 150 policemen who were among 600 officers captured when the Tigers overran 11 police stations on Monday.

Deputy Defence Minister Ranjan Wijeratne said the report "seems to be authentic, but we have to double-check." He characterised the situation as "war."

In addition to the reported massacre of policemen, as many as 90 government troops, Tamil Tigers and civilians may have been killed since Monday, according to reports compiled by residents, military sources and the Tigers. Officially, the government has confirmed only the deaths of 16 soldiers.

(Earlier Story Page 7)

DAY BY DAY

THE Holy Quran is a great book. It contains many good lessons and examples for those willing to learn. I stopped for a long time at the following verses:

The Day that their faces
Will be turned upside down
In the fire they will say:
"We to us! would that
We had obeyed God
And obeyed the Apostle!"
(Sura 33, Verse 66)

And they would say:
"Our Lord! We obeyed
Our chiefs and our great ones.
And they misled us
As to the (right) path
(Sura 33, Verse 67)

Indeed this is a very important lesson revealed by the Almighty Allah. These verses are aimed at the people of Prophet Moses, who spread all kinds of corruption on Earth. The Holy Quran is a great book and a great constitution, good for all for all times. But it seems there are some who interpret the meanings of the Holy Quran to suit their ends.

Zahed Matar

ARAB TIMES Grand Bingo

KD 250 must be won

Coupons for Game No. 77 appear till June 16. Last date for sending entries is June 18.



Picture shows two fighters of the Lebanese Forces militia watching the World Cup match in Beirut. (Reuters wirephoto)

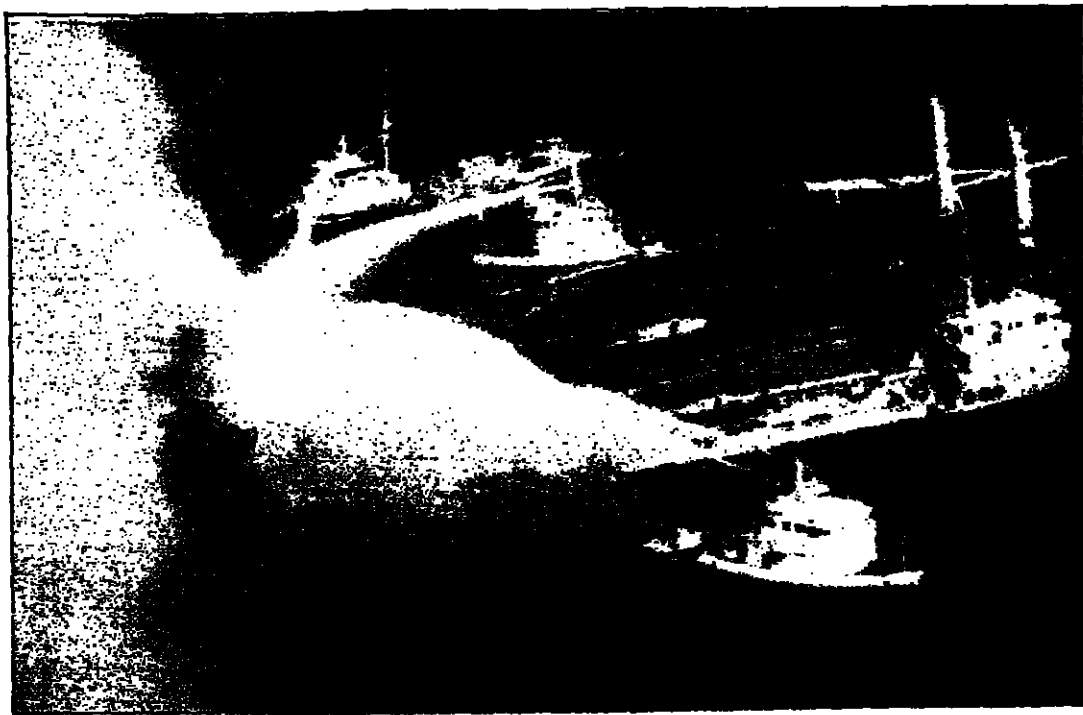
Egypt's tie causes heart attacks

CAIRO, June 13, (AP): Zealous joy over Egypt's 1-1 tie with Holland in a World Cup soccer match yesterday killed two young Egyptian and Jordanian men, both of heart attacks, new reports and doctors said today.

The daily Al Akhbar newspaper said 25-year-old Mohamed El Sayed Eissa suffered a massive heart attack and died immediately following the Egyptian goal scored by Magdi Abdel-Ghani. Eissa was watching the match with friends at home near Kafr El Zayat, 111 km (69 miles) north of Cairo.

And in northern Jordan, a 25-year-old Jordanian called Jalal Omar Bazlamit died of a similar heart attack as he celebrated the Egyptian goal.

Dr Ghazi Bashabsheh of Ramtha government hospital, near the Syrian border, said Bazlamit was dead on arrival at the hospital at midnight yesterday.



Fire under control

Firefighters boarded a burning supertanker and brought under control the fierce blaze that has left the oil-laden vessel crippled and leaking in the Gulf of Mexico, officials said.

Oil continued to leak from the ship yesterday, the Coast Guard said.

A thick cloud of grey smoke surrounded the superstructure of the 886-foot (270-metre) Mega Borg, replacing the balls of flame and the towering columns of black smoke that had been billowing from the Norwegian vessel since an engine-room explosion on Saturday.

Coast Guard Capt. Tom Greene said that Ted Hoskins, who heads the salvage operation, boarded the ship with a crew. Hoskins said he would characterise the fire as under control, Greene said.

Greene said he could see no fires in the latest videos taken on the ship, but added a fire was still burning below deck.

The Coast Guard also revised its estimate of the amount of oil on the water to less than 2,000 gallons (7,600 litres), a fraction of the 100,000 gallons (380,000 litres) officials estimated earlier.

Picture shows fireboats spraying water on the supertanker. (Reuters wirephoto)

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Picture shows fireboats spraying water on the supertanker. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Central Park jogger case: A rape case which threw New York city into panic and introduced a new word for savagery into the English language goes to trial today.

In the words of the young defendants, they were "wilding" when they went on a random crime spree which ended in the brutal gang rape of a woman identified at the time only as the "Central Park jogger."

The savage nature of the case in central Manhattan shocked even hardened New Yorkers. The trial is expected to unleash a new bout of soul-searching about the value of living in a city constantly tormented about the safety of its residents and the state of race relations. (Reuters)

Tornado kills 30 in Philippines: A tornado ripped through a southern Philippine fishing village, hurling houses into the sea, killing 30 people and injuring about 100, a local official said yesterday.

The tornado hit upper Diskan village in Marikina, Zambanga Del Norte province, on Tuesday night, lifting 60 houses from their foundations, Marikina information officer Ceir Bingham said.

Fifty people were still missing, he said. (Reuters)

Boeing lands after cracks: A British Airways Boeing 737 made an unscheduled landing after small cracks appeared in its cockpit windshield at 27,000 feet (8,000 metres), the airline said yesterday.

The incident occurred on a domestic flight on Tuesday, two days after a windshield blew out of a British Airways BAC 1-11 whose pilot was sucked

halfway from the cockpit and saved only by crew members grabbing his legs.

But an airline spokesman said there had been no danger to the crew or 45 passengers on the Boeing 737. The cracks were only in the outer layer of the windshield and the captain landed as a precaution. (Reuters)

Swarm of 20,000 invades house: Talk about unwanted houseguests.

Trish and Vincent Gaminzi returned home from vacation to discover that 20,000 honeybees had made themselves at home in their walls.

On Tuesday, beekeepers used a vacuum to suck the bees from between the inside and outside walls of a third-floor bedroom. In three weeks, the bees had produced 4 pounds (1.8 kg) of honey and had 10,000 young in early stages of development. (AP)

Newly wed Poles: Hundreds of newly-wed Poles may find they are not married after all because the officials who carried out the ceremony were not authorised to do so, the Social Democratic Party newspaper Trybuna said on Tuesday.

Under a new local government law, autonomous local councils elected in Poland's first fully free elections on May 27 have to authorise local officials.

But many of the councils were not aware of the procedure and had yet to do so, Trybuna said.

A senior cabinet official said the new local administration law was prepared at the last minute and irregularities in marriages might have occurred. (Reuters)

Rushdie paperback plan dropped

LONDON, June 13. (Reuters): The publishers of Salman Rushdie's controversial novel *The Satanic Verses* last month dropped plans for a paperback edition to avoid jeopardising the release of hostages in Beirut, a British newspaper said today.

Rushdie has been in hiding since February last year when the late Iranian spiritual leader Ayatollah Khomeini said the novel blasphemed Islam, and told Muslims to kill its author.

The Financial Times said Penguin Books had planned to publish a paperback edition in Britain at the beginning of May.

But the company decided it would be irresponsible to go ahead with the paperback after the British Foreign Office advised it that the hostage situation was sensitive, the newspaper said.

Britain is seeking the release of three Britons and an Irishman believed held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian groups.

The Financial Times said Penguin had believed the Rushdie controversy was beginning to subside and that it would be possible to pursue the principle of the freedom to publish.

Trump's casino breaks even

NEW YORK, June 13. (UPI): Debt-burdened Donald Trump's Taj Mahal casino had record May gambling winnings of \$36.5 million, the New Jersey Casino control commission said yesterday, but doubts hovered over his Atlantic City operations.

The Taj Mahal, opened April 2 at a staggering cost of \$1.1 billion, had a daily average "win" of nearly \$1.2 million — around the level financial analysts said was the operation's break-even point.

But "people expected a little better than

that," said analyst Larry Glatzkin of Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc., who follows the high-yield junk bonds issued to finance Trump's three Atlantic City casinos.

"The Taj was a little disappointing," he said, despite the record established for the sum retained after paying off lucky gamblers.

Possible new Trump troubles loomed as it was reported that the Securities and Exchange Commission was scrutinising his investments.

The national daily newspaper USA Today said Trump and his broker, Bear, Stearns and Co., were the subject of inquiries into possible irregular stock dealings, but both said they had not been contacted by the Sec.

"We don't confirm or deny whether we have investigations (underway), so there is really nothing (else to say)," William McLucas, director of enforcement at the Sec in Washington said.

Another Trump casino in Atlantic City, the Trump Castle, showed a sharp drop to

\$17.9 million in May winnings from \$21.3 million a year earlier.

The casino panel's announcement came on the heels of a deal cut between Trump and his bank creditors, from whom he is to get \$60 million in new loans and a suspension of interest payments on about \$2 billion in bank debt.

Once a swaggering symbol of roaring eighties confidence and excess, Trump in recent weeks has been scrambling to keep his real estate, airline and casino empire from being dismantled.

'Revive Med-Dead Sea canal project'

JERUSALEM, June 13. (AP): Science Minister Yuval Neeman proposed today reviving a plan for a canal from the Mediterranean to the Dead Sea that was shelved five years ago as impractical and too costly.

Neeman, a physicist who headed a project to decide the route of the proposed canal in 1981, said that the decision to cancel the project was made too hastily and "without depth."

"The canal can solve the problem of the Dead Sea that is evaporating today," Neeman told Israel Radio. "A big part of the Dead Sea is already desert — the Dead Sea, an area we are developing."

The plan to build the 70-mile (112 kilometre) so-called "Dead-Med Canal" was announced in 1980. It caught the imagination of Israelis because Theodore Herzl, the visionary who conceived the Jewish state, urged building such a canal as early as 1902.

The 1980 plan had two purposes: to generate electricity and to refill the evaporating Dead Sea, actually a lake laden with salt and chemicals through which runs the Israeli-Jordanian border.

Electricity was to be generated by using the force of the water as it flowed down to the Dead Sea, which at 1,097 feet (402 metres) below sea level is the lowest point on Earth.

When the project was cancelled in 1985, Energy Minister Moshe Shalev said the canal would be too costly because falling oil prices had reduced the cost of generating electricity.

Energy officials estimated then that the project would be feasible if oil cost \$32 a barrel. Today the price is about \$15 a barrel.

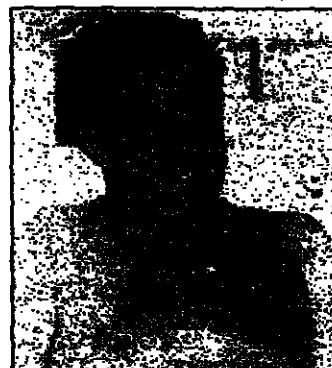
By 1985, the original cost estimate of \$680 had risen to \$1.5 billion, and \$17 million had gone into engineering studies.

Neeman, 65, who also was science minister in the early 1980s, said today on the radio that the government at that time faced financial troubles and mistakenly dropped another important project, the Lavi jet fighter.

"The government then ... hastily threw out national projects, the Lavi and the canal. What happened is we don't have either of them today," he said.

The decision to stop the canal project was also involved political considerations. Neighbouring Jordan claimed the project would threaten Jordanian chemical works on the east bank of the Dead Sea.

Then-prime minister Shimon Peres was trying to entice Jordan's King Hussein into peace talks. But Peres' plan was torpedoed by Yitzhak Shamir, the Likud bloc leader who formed a new right-wing government on Monday.



Wrong bolts blamed

Wrong bolts were fitted to a jetliner windshield that blew out in flight, sucking the pilot halfway out the cockpit, government officials said on Tuesday.

British Airways said a maintenance engineer involved in installing the windshield was suspended while it conducts an inquiry.

Pilot Tim Lancaster was saved by his cabin staff, who held him by the ankles as high winds beat him against the nose cone for 15 minutes on Sunday, until the co-pilot managed to land the BAC 1-11.

The 41-year-old pilot was recovering on Tuesday at Southampton General Hospital from broken bones, bruises and frostbite. The hospital said it

expected to discharge him later today.

An interim report from the Department of Transport's air accident investigation branch said 84 of the 90 bolts were too small for the nuts into which they fitted.

Investigators said the blowout occurred as the 18-year-old aircraft was climbing after takeoff from Birmingham airport with 81 passengers and six crew members bound for Malaga, Spain.

The 2-by-3-foot (61-by-91 centimetre) windshield was found on the ground.

Investigators were trying to find out whether the bolts were wrongly manufactured or incorrectly

packaged when delivered, or the airline's engineers selected the wrong bolts.

They said the windshield was fitted during routine maintenance the day before the incident. Not two days before, and the plane was at about 17,000 feet (5,000 metres) when the blowout took place, not 23,000 feet (7,000 metres) as earlier reported.

British Airways said it was checking all 84 of its BAC 1-11s.

Picture (left) shows Lancaster in hospital and (right) a British Airways captain investigates the damage.

Explosion raises fears

HARTLEY WINTNEY, England, June 13. (AP): A explosion tore through the front of an historic mansion, causing extensive damage and raising suspicions of a new attack by animal rights extremists, police said today.

The 18th century West Green House in this south England village, 55 miles (88 kilometres) from London, was unoccupied when the blast tore out brickwork and shattered windows shortly before midnight (245 GMT) yesterday.

Police said no one was hurt.

The mansion, owned by the state-aided National Trust, was until last month the stately home of Lord McAlpine, a building construction millionaire and former deputy

chairman of the governing Conservative Party.

Hampshire county police said McAlpine, whose interests include a zoo in Broome, Australia, was attacked by animal rights extremists five years ago.

"We are looking closely at the animal rights angle, but have not ruled out any group or organisation," said Hampshire police inspector Barry Jakeman.

"We think the blast was the result of a bomb ... in all probability it was the result of a terrorist attack," he told reporters.

McAlpine, 48, lived in West Green House for 10 years and spent millions of pounds

(dollars) restoring it, the National Trust said.

He moved out last month, and also resigned then as treasurer of the Conservative Party, saying he wanted to concentrate on business and other interests.

McAlpine, who has homes in London, Italy and Australia, was party deputy chairman from 1979-83.

On Sunday, a bomb planted by animal rights extremists in the southwest England city of Bristol blew up the car of a veterinary surgeon whose research involves animal experiments.

The scientist was thrown clear but a 13-month-old baby in his push chair on the sidewalk was injured.

Times changes

'We're right, but we're wrong'

LONDON, June 13. (AP): The 205-year-old Times of London has finally succumbed to Ms. Time now on, the title will be automatic in its new editions for American women, and on special request for the rest.

Other old favourites are going too, including the Times' singular spellings of "Mouna Lisa" and Gorbachev.

"We came to look very odd," says literary editor Philip Howard, a co-author of the paper's new style guide.

Times editor Simon Jenkins introduced readers to the changes in Tuesday's editions.

"The Mirror that a newspaper holds up to the world is constantly smudged with jargon, bad usage and verbosity. A style guide is a periodic cleansing of that mirror," wrote Jenkins, who took over as editor in March.

The Times style guide, introduced at the turn of the century, was last revised completely in the mid-1960s. There were regular updates but the guide remained, said Howard, "very magnificent with high standards but terribly restrictive and quite Victorian."

Readers who've stayed faithful don't always welcome change.

"When Ms. is used in the Times we get angry letters, often written by women who want to know what is that vulgar new word and how do you pronounce it," said Howard, author of "We Thundered On: 200 years of the Times 1785-1985."

But journalists like it.

"It is awkward for a reporter to have to go up to a woman after a report and ask her if she is married," Howard said. "A younger woman is likely to tell them to mind their own business and they may get a clip around the ears with a handbag."

"Our Russian specialists know that our spelling is better, but if the rest of the world spells it another way, ours looks very odd," Howard said. "We're right, but we're wrong."

Treasured spellings have been overhauled, too, even when the Times knows that everyone else is wrong.

From Tuesday, the Times switched to Gorbachev instead of the transliterated Gorbachov for the President of the Soviet Union.



Dismantling the Wall

Workers on Wednesday began tearing down the remainder of the Berlin Wall, starting with a street that was split down the centre and symbolised the city's division.

A huge crane smashed into a section of wall that had been built into the fronts of houses on Bernauer street in August 1961, when the wall went up.

"I am full of hatred for that symbol of division," said East German Building Minister Ekkehard Kraitl as hundreds of people gathered to watch the ceremonial start of the destruction. (See Page 5)

Asians witnessed Exploding star

ALBUQUERQUE, New Mexico, June 13. (AP): A pottery bowl painted with a 23-point star shows that an exploding star witnessed by Asians and Arabs 900 years ago was also seen by people of the American Southwest, scientists said.

"The bowl provides us with the best supported historic record from the Western Hemisphere of the supernova that created the Crab Nebula," said R. Robert Robbins, an astronomy professor at the University of Texas.

"In fact, the bowl is the most certain record of the supernova that has ever been discovered outside China and Japan," he said yesterday during the 176th meeting of the American Astronomical Society.

The white earthenware, Mimbres Indian bowl was made between 1000 and 1150 AD and found in what is now southwestern New Mexico. It also shows the black-painted figure of a rabbit curled into a crescent shape to symbolise the moon, Robbins said.

In many primitive cultures in the Americas, the rabbit commonly represents the moon, he said.

Chinese astronomers recorded the appearance of the Crab Nebula supernova in 1054 in the constellation Taurus.

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Cruise-wear line on show

Well put-together

PARIS, June 13. (AP) Tiny minis, brisk bike lights and beautifully cut jackets outlined the Chanel cruise-wear line shown yesterday.

It was a nostalgic cruise, as the show was held in the original saloon on Rue Cambon. The scene looked much as in the old days when Coco herself presided, with pretty young employees sitting on the circular staircase.

"This is our first show of cruise wear, though we have been making it for years," said Chanel's designer, Karl Lagerfeld, during a catered champagne lunch after the show.

"This was my idea to have an intimate lunch show to launch the between-season clothes and set them off," said Lagerfeld.

"The premieres mains" or top couture seamstress directors work better this way, when they know they'll be admired by the press and a larger audience, not just in a showroom," he added.

The clothes for "cruising" — whether boats, streets or polo clubs — looked like sharp versions of what Lagerfeld has been doing for a couple of seasons at Chanel, for whom he has been head designer since 1983.

He topped most of them with beautiful, oversized boater hats.

Neat and well put-together, they looked angled to sell. They ranged from beautifully cut navy shantung jackets with patch pockets to little Robin's egg-blue or tea-rose pink bouclé suits. The details were sharply etched: cutaway or notched-front jackets with scooped or decollete-lapel necks.

The late-day wear featured some beautifully classic black-and-white outfits in crepe de chine and pleated shortie chiffon skirts, Lagerfeld's original vision of Chanel of yore.

He also featured his current favourite shades of hot coral, peach and soft wisteria for next

winter's sunny resort wear.

There were plenty of crossed-C logo buttons around, this time often in colours to match the outfit. For those with great figures, the skintight navy jersey sailor-suits with middy-style tops were worn with gold-buttoned Bermuda or Corsair-length clinging pants.

The only criticism was that it all looked terribly junior Miss—even in beautiful bouclé tweed suits featuring raspberry or lime plaids. Fine for young girls and older sophisticates like Audrey Hepburn, but perhaps a bit flighty for the likes of French politicians' wives who often favour Chanel.

"Many women can wear these clothes," winked Lagerfeld, hinting that perhaps a few skirts will come out longer in the boutiques.

Lagerfeld wore a blazer and tie with a cameo tie-clip, his usual ponytail, and dark glasses by Christian Dior.

The little Chanel trapeze-line coats with their double-breasted gold button effects and the light pink poplin pants suits both looked nostalgically cruise-like, echoes of luxury liners in 1958, when Lagerfeld was a teenager learning design in Paris.

But the traditional quality was there as well, and Chanel was proud to show it off up close.

The cruise line for next winter's in-between-seasons rich women is not cheap. Outfits will be in the \$2,000-and-up range, on a par with the ready-to-wear. With Lagerfeld at the helm, the world's most-copied house is still keeping a jump ahead of the rip-off artists.

Beach goes who favour skimpy bikinis and G-strings will have to cover up when they sunbathe on Florida state beaches or face misdemeanor charges.

The Florida governor and his cabinet on Tuesday approved measure outlawing G-strings.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

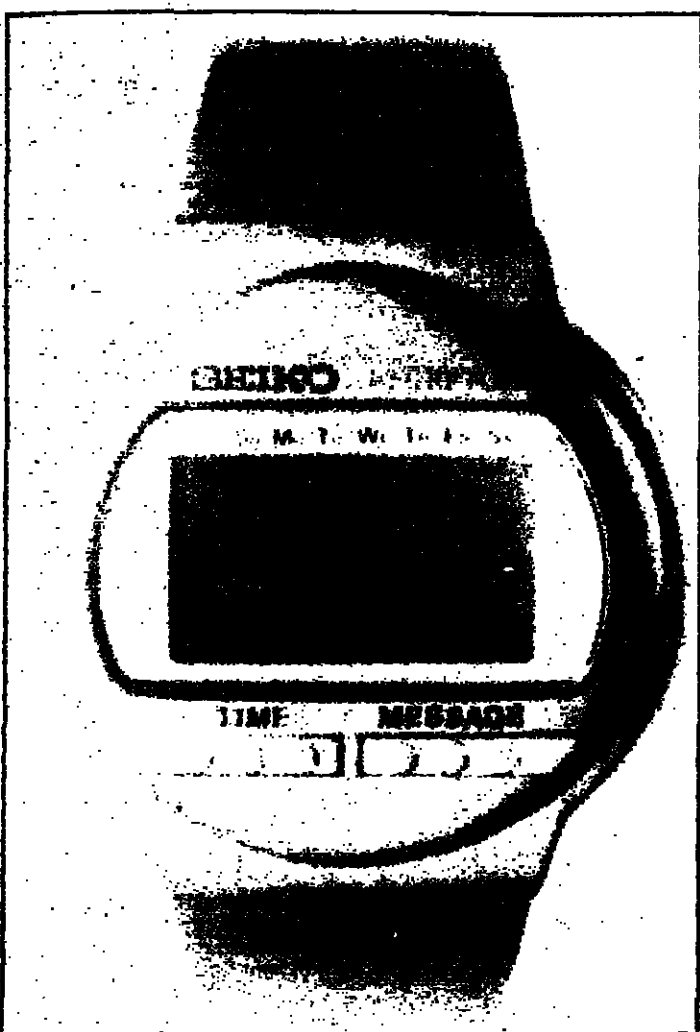


Photo shows Seiko watch which also works as a paging system. The pager watch called Receptor Message Watch uses FM radio frequencies. (Reuter wirephoto)

New paging system

AT & E introduces

NEW YORK, June 13. (Reuter) AT and E Corp, a voice and data communications company introduced a paging system that uses a wristwatch as the receiver.

The pager, called Receptor Message Watch, uses FM radio frequencies to reach out to people. The watch, made by Japan's Seiko, goes on sale today for \$225.

San Francisco-based AT and E said its goal is for subscribers to receive messages anywhere in the world where FM frequencies are available.

The watch concept is a break from the traditional clip-on pager.

Patients have right to die: poll

WASHINGTON, June 13. (AP) Eight of 10 Americans believe patients should be allowed to die in some circumstances and about half say some incurably ill people have a moral right to commit suicide, according to a poll released yesterday.

The poll, by the Times Mirror Centre for the people and the press, was conducted a month before Dr Jack Kevorkian, a retired pathologist in Pontiac, Michigan, helped Janet Adkins commit suicide June 4.

Ms Adkins had been diagnosed as being in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease.

Diane Colasanto, a researcher for the Times Mirror Centre based in Princeton, New Jersey, said the survey did not include any questions about physician-assisted suicide. But she added, "I think what we found is relevant to the Kevorkian case."

The survey found that 80 per cent of those polled believed there are some circumstances in which a patient should be allowed to die. Only 15 per cent thought doctors and nurses should always do everything possible to save a patient's life.

Forty-nine per cent said a person with an incurable disease has the moral right to commit suicide, compared with the 40 per cent who expressed such a view in a 1975 Gallup poll.

Fifty-five per cent said there is a moral right to commit suicide if a person is suffering great pain with no hope of improvement. Forty-one per cent held such a view in the 1975 survey.

Distinction

Susan M. Wolf, a lawyer with the Hastings Centre, a research institute in Briarcliff Manor, New York, that studies medical ethics, said there is a clear distinction between a doctor withholding life support and a doctor assisting in a suicide.

"Both medical ethics and law treat those things as exact opposites of one another," she said.

"In both ethics and law, it is very widely agreed now that the doctor is really mandated to stop life-sustaining treatment at the patient's request. On the other hand, when you get to the question of physician-assisted suicide, both medical ethics and the criminal law roundly condemn that as it stands."

Many states have right-to-die laws, but the question has remained a controversial one. The supreme court is expected to rule soon on the efforts of a Missouri couple to remove life support from their 31-year-old daughter, Nancy Cruzan, who was severely brain damaged in a car crash. The Justice Department has sided with the state of Missouri in attempting to block removal of the life-support equipment.

Kevorkian has not been charged. Oakland County circuit judge Alice Gilbert ordered him to stop using a device he calls the suicide machine or taking other steps to help people kill themselves until prosecutors decide whether to try him.

The Times Mirror Centre, an adjunct of the Times Mirror Publishing and Broadcasting Organisation, conducted telephone interviews with 1,231 adults from May 1 to May 5. It said the results are subject to an error of plus or minus 3 per centage.

Arizona

Woman's suicide kills roommates

PEORIA, Arizona, June 13. (AP) A woman who committed suicide by running her car in a closed garage also killed her two roommates, apparently without intending to, police said.

The body of Ruth M. Goran, 55, was found Friday, two days before her daughter's wedding. Mrs Goran was clad in a nightgown, and was sitting in a car with the ignition on, Sgt. James Flonacher said yesterday.

Inside her condominium, Claude R. Hillhouse, 42, and Gordon Geer, 32, were also dead. Both men were dressed, with Hillhouse in the living room and Geer in the bathroom, police said.

The same carbon monoxide fumes that took Mrs Goran's life had seeped into the condominium and killed the men, Flonacher said.

Police are still unsure why Mrs Goran wanted to kill herself, but it seemed that she did not intend for the two men to die.

"There are absolutely no signs of foul play... we are convinced the deaths were accidental," Flonacher said.

CHICAGO: A group of nursing home patients between the ages of 90 and 96 showed dramatic increases in muscle strength when they began lifting weights, doctors reported Tuesday.

The senior citizens, who suffered variously from arthritis, heart disease and high blood pressure, lifted weights with their legs three times a day for eight weeks, researchers at Tufts University in Boston said.

They said the study was significant because muscle weakness was a major factor in falls and immobility among elderly people. (Reuter)

LONDON: The commission for the safety of medicine is on the verge of withdrawing the heart drug corwin, after it was found that it can kill, it was reported in London Wednesday.

The committee is reviewing a number of reports of adverse side-effects for the drug, reported by hospital doctors, the Guardian Newspaper said today. (Kuna)

LONDON: A private letter written by the British Queen Elizabeth 18 days after her eldest son, the Prince of Wales, was born more than 40 years ago has been sold in New York for \$282, it was reported in London Wednesday.

The letter details royal puzzlement over the appearance of the new baby, and was written on Buckingham palace notepaper, by the then Princess Elizabeth to an aristocratic British lady, the Marchioness of Carisbrooke.

American dealer Bob Tofflet bought the letter in London and has sold it to an anonymous Californian collector, the British media said. (Kuna)

LONDON: Dolly Duffin, who used to wheel her tortoise Fred around the northern English town of Hull in a pram, has left \$26,000 (\$45,000) to the pet in her will.

Miss Duffin, who died at the age of 61, bequeathed the money to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the "care, upkeep and maintenance" of Fred.

"He'll have the best lettuce and cabbage leaves for the rest of his life, which could be a long one," an RSPCA spokesman said on Wednesday. (Reuter)

ATHENS: The government warned Greeks on Tuesday to dress appropriately for a heat wave, as air pollution levels soared, forest fires raged and the capital's water supplies were reported to be dwindling.

The national meteorological service forecast a maximum temperature of 40 degrees Celsius (104 degrees Fahrenheit) by Friday, saying that it could rise more in the following days. (AP)

TOKYO: Thirty-five environmentalist groups from around the world asked the Japanese government on Wednesday to take immediate action to stop mass killings in its waters of a fast-vanishing species of porpoise.

In the past three years, at least 67 per cent of Dall's porpoises in two colonies in waters off northern Japan have been killed by Japanese fishermen, said Allan Thornton, president of the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA). (Reuter)

LONDON: The number of accidents on England's roads is increasing according to the latest official statistics published in London Wednesday.

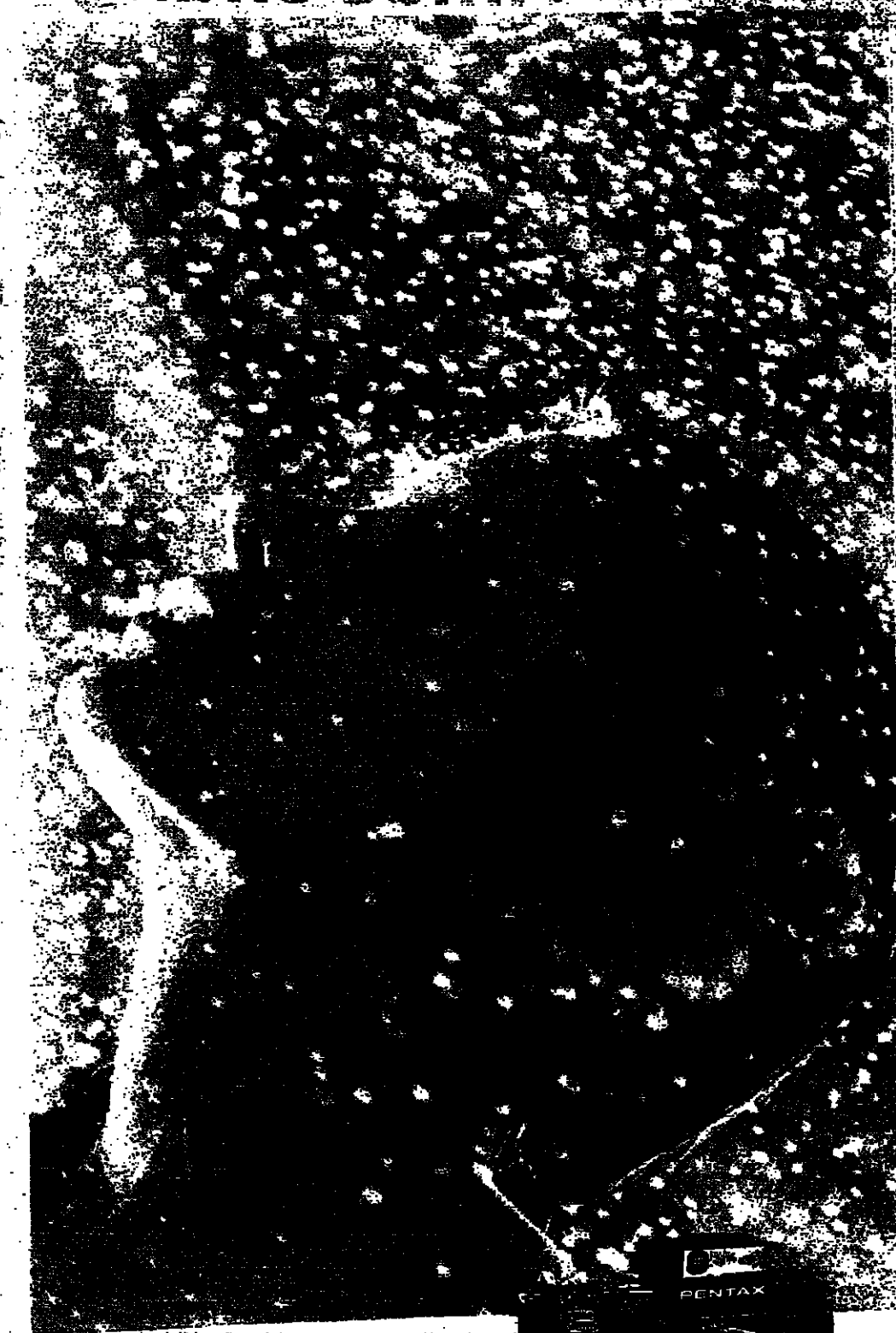
The UK department of transport reported that there were a total of 216,922 accidents on English roads during 1988, up three per cent on the previous year. (Kuna)

KAMPALA: Six to ten per cent of Uganda's population, or more than one million out of 16 million people, carry the AIDS-causing Human Immunodeficiency Virus, Ugandan Prime Minister Samson Kisekka said in newspaper reports printed Wednesday.

At least 12,000 Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome cases have been confirmed in the Central African nation since the first case was diagnosed in 1982, according to the Ugandan national AIDS control programme.

"There is no problem in being frank on issues of national catastrophe such as the AIDS disease," Kisekka said at the official opening of Africa's first voluntary information centre on AIDS in Kampala Tuesday. (UPI)

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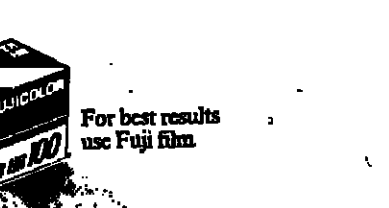
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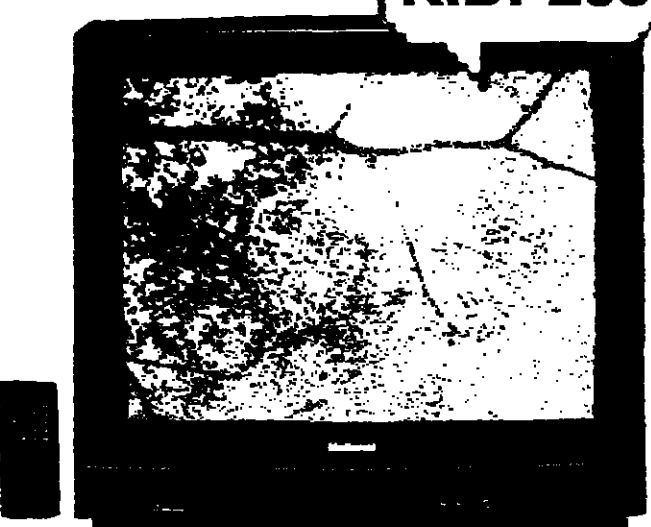
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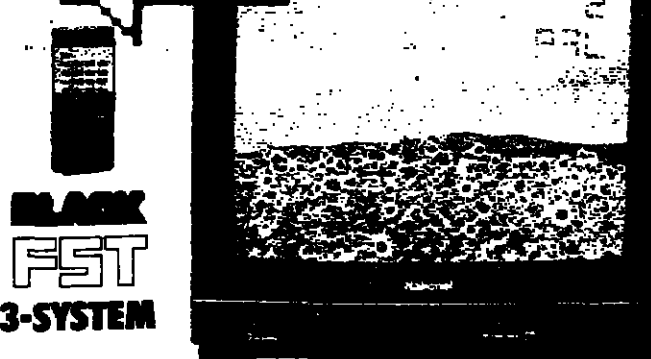
Colour TV 33" WORLD 17 SYSTEM TC-AV33XR 33 84cm

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COLOUR TV 26" 3-SYSTEM 26 66cm TC-2685TR

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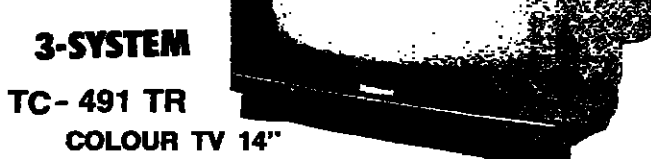
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INTERNATIONAL

Argentine president boots wife from residence

Zulema demands showdown: son, daughter allowed to stay back

BUENOS AIRES, June 13, (AP): Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem has booted his wife Zulema from the official residence, family members said.

"We're leaving because the President has thrown us out," son Carlos, 21, told reporters as he, his mother and 19-year-old sister Zulema Maria Eva stood outside the 65-acre (26-hectare) compound in the suburban town of Olivos.

However, the President's legal adviser, Raul Granillo Ocampo, told reporters in a separate interview that Mrs Menem had left the night before, on her own.

And the decree barring her re-entry does not apply to their children "Carlitos" and "Zulemita," Granillo Ocampo said.

"President Carlos Menem wished his wife to leave the residence, and this was accomplished without any kind of violence due to the fact that she already had left before his decision was communicated," he said.

Mrs Menem, 46, her thick blonde tresses spilling over a light blue jogging suit, demanded a showdown.

"If I can't go in, let the President and no one else tell me so," she said, standing in bright fall sunshine outside the red brick wall that

surrounds the compound. After a fruitless wait, she and the children drove to the couple's apartment in the posh Recoleta neighbourhood of Buenos Aires.

Marital problems are nothing new for Argentina's first family. Since their wedding 24 years ago, they have separated twice and were forced apart by his long imprisonment following the 1976 military coup.

In all they have lived apart for nearly as long as they have lived together.

On May 8, Menem moved out of the presidential compound, leaving Mrs Menem behind. But he dropped a strong hint that he expected her to leave, noting the terms of the 1920 donation of the presidential residence: if the President does not live in it for six months, it reverts to the owners.

Also, he noted, the President alone has legal authority to determine who may enter the compound — and who may not.

The root of the discord, some observers say, is Mrs Menem's desire for a government post.

During the campaign, she said she wanted to finish social projects begun by "Evita" Peron, the wife of Juan Domingo Peron, who devoted herself to charity during his first

presidency in the late 1940s.

Menem has refused to give his wife such authority. Since his inauguration last July, she has snipped at his economic policies, political appointments and even his character.

At a time when Menem has tried to achieve a national consensus to stabilise an economy in recession and a society torn by labour, military and social problems, she became, by his admission, his "harsh critic."

Hours before she showed up at the presidential compound yesterday, Mrs Menem was called to testify in court about posters plastered on city walls that vaguely accused some of Menem's top aides of corruption. She denied any involvement.

Several months ago, she stormed out of the presidential compound, saying the phone lines were tapped and her security was not assured.

Last week, she told reporters, again, that Menem seems to have been "kidnapped" by his aides.

Previously, she accused Menem, 59, of being a "womaniser" and hinted that his conversion from Islam to Roman Catholicism was something less than an act of faith.



Zulema Yoma (left) and her daughter Zulema Maria Eva board a limousine after being turned away from the Argentina's Olivos presidential residence's gates on Tuesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Abuses: part of Mexican society

MEXICO CITY, June 13, (Reuters): Flagrant human rights abuses, including killings and torture by the police and other security forces, have become "an institutionalised part of Mexican society," according to a leading human rights group.

In a report released yesterday, the New York-based Americas Watch group says Washington should consider severing its military and economic assistance to Mexico because of its human rights record.

The report, entitled "Human rights in Mexico: a policy of impunity," documents a catalogue of crimes allegedly committed by police during criminal investigations, especially by members of the federal judicial police.

"Officers of the federal judicial police's anti-narcotics division routinely commit criminal acts far worse than those they are trying to stop," it said.

It highlighted an incident last month in which judicial policemen are alleged to have kicked to death a six-year-old boy for failing to tell them where his father was.

The 114-page report details an array of abuses in Mexico stemming from corruption, lack of government control over the criminal justice system, political violence, land disputes and violence against independent labour unions and the press.

It was most critical, however, of "the undisputed, corrupt and violent practices of elements of the (Mexico's) police and security forces" and of the government's failure to curb their abuses.

"Torture and extra-judicial killings by federal and state police and the country's security forces are disturbingly frequent in Mexico," the report said.

The pattern of excessive violence and abuse, it says, leads to the conclusion that "either the Mexican government has adopted a policy of tolerating such behaviour, or it has lost control over its police, security and prosecutorial agencies."

Spokesmen for President Carlos Salinas de Gortari, who was returning to Mexico yesterday from a three-day visit to Washington, could not be reached for immediate comment on the Americas Watch report.

■ **Managua:** A Sandinista Army lieutenant was gunned down in a provincial town near the main security zone where Contra rebels are disarming, and witnesses blamed the killing on a car-mounted machine-gun fire, government officials said yesterday.

An Interior Ministry spokeswoman confirmed that first Lieutenant Miguel Murillo was shot late Sunday night at a home in Santo Tomas, in Chontales province about 120 miles (195 km) east of Managua. (UPI)

■ **Dominican Republic:** Two major opposition parties charged yesterday that fraud and irregularities affected the outcome of the May 16 election in which President Joaquín Balaguer won a sixth term.

The charges were filed with the central electoral board a day after it announced that Balaguer narrowly defeated his leftist challenger, Juan Bosch, by less than 25,000 votes, or 1.3 percent of the total cast. (AP)

■ **Costa Rica:** Past and present Central American leaders and thousands of Costa Ricans paid final respects yesterday to three-time President José Figueres, who died Friday at 83.

Figueres' body, which had lain in state at the national museum, was taken the 600 yards (metres) to the national cathedral in a 90-minute procession for a funeral mass celebrated by San José Archbishop Monsignor Ramon Arrieta. (AP)

■ **Honduras:** A banana war that threatened to destabilise the Honduran banana industry ended yesterday with both US giant Chiquita brands international and the growers who had sought to break from Chiquita declaring victory.

Chiquita, a major player in the Honduran banana trade for decades, has traditionally operated with few restrictions in Honduras. (Reuters)

■ **Cuba:** Cuban health authorities reported 63 cases of AIDS in the country yesterday, although 446 Cubans have tested positive for the presence of the AIDS virus, official Cuban News Agency said. (UPI)

■ **Brazil:** Brazil will extend a ban on whaling in territorial waters, the government announced.

The Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources defended maintaining the ban, which was enacted in 1987. (AP)

Defence cuts can lead to lay offs

WASHINGTON, June 13, (AP): Cutting more than \$8 billion from President George Bush's 1991 defence budget would force layoffs of more than 140,000 military personnel, Defense Secretary Dick Cheney told Congress yesterday.

"We would end up doing great violence to our most important military asset — our men and women," Cheney said in painting a dire picture of the armed forces if Congress significantly cuts defence spending.

White House officials and members of Congress are negotiating an overall budget for the fiscal year beginning Oct 1 that would determine the amount of money for defence.

Cheney promised negotiators last week that he would submit by tomorrow a list of personnel projections for the next five years if defence spending is cut by 25 per cent.

He provided a hint of the impact yesterday in testimony before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on defence.

Cheney said a 25 per cent cut would result in a reduction of five to six army divisions and five to six wings from the air force. If Congress adopts the budget totals passed by the house on May 1, Cheney said he would be forced to lay off 103,000 personnel in addition to the 38,000 in the defence plan.

The house approved a \$1.2 trillion budget that applies \$295.5 billion for defence, \$8.5 billion less than Bush has proposed.

The Senate Budget Committee has approved an overall budget that cuts Bush's \$383.3 billion military spending plan by \$9.4 billion.

"The only place we can get those kinds of savings quickly in fiscal 1991 is our manpower," Cheney said. "There's no other place to go. We'd have to run a lot of people off, throw people on the street, freeze promotions."

The armed forces have 2.1 million people.

Republicans to protect US flag

Durenberger accused

WASHINGTON, June 13, (AP): Congressional Republicans emerged from the White House yesterday criticizing the Supreme Court and vowing to press for quick action on a constitutional amendment to restore special protection for the flag.

Senate minority leader Bob Dole, waving a small flag, took a swipe at Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, who warned in his dissent Monday against leaders' manipulating the flag "for partisan disputes."

"As far as I know he's never run for political office," Dole, a Republican, told reporters. "If he wants to get out there and run, well, go right ahead. He has a right to criticize those of us in politics, and we have a right to criticize the court, and they're wrong."

Stevens was in the minority on the 5-4 decision that overturned the federal flag protection act.

In a dissent, he wrote that the integrity of the flag as a national symbol "has been compromised by those leaders who seem to advocate compulsory worship of the flag... (or) manipulate the symbol of national purpose into a pretext for partisan disputes."



Bush holds a press conference in the White House Rose Garden on June 12, as Sen. Dole (left) looks on. (Reuters wirephoto)

about meander ends." President George Bush was renewing his call for a constitutional amendment to protect the flag yesterday at a Rose Garden ceremony.

Cops can stop, question suspects

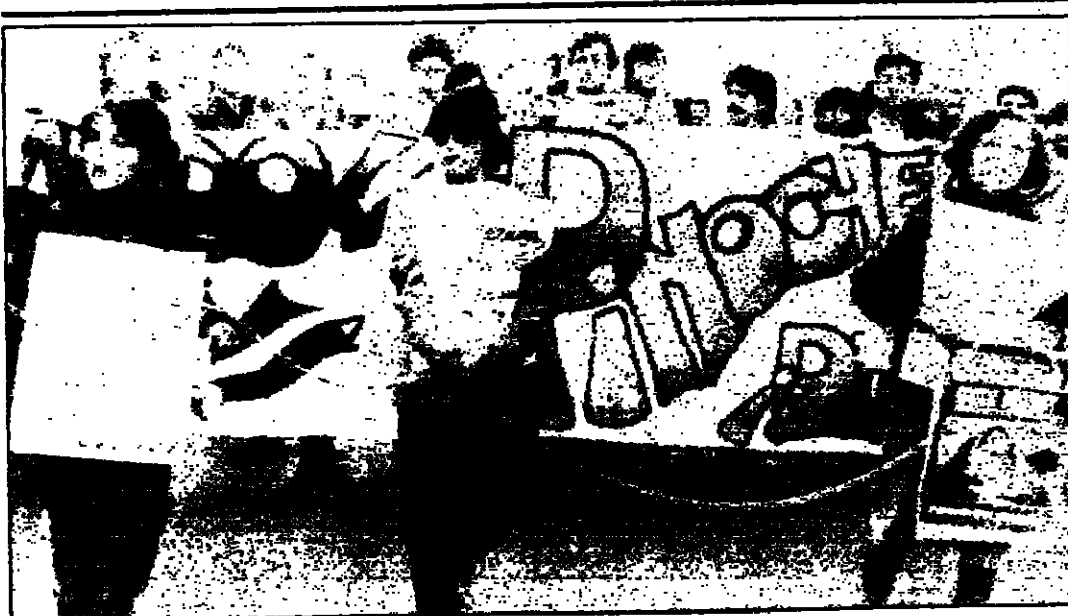
WASHINGTON, (AP): The US Supreme Court this week gave police broad new authority to stop and question someone on the basis of an anonymous tip that the person is involved in a crime.

By a 6-3 vote, the justices said anonymous tips can justify such police tactics if the information is in some way corroborated before the person is stopped and questioned.

The decision reinstated Vanessa White's 1987 conviction and two-year probationary sentence for possession of marijuana and cocaine. A state court had thrown out the conviction, ruling that Montgomery, Alabama, police seized the drugs after unlawfully stopping her car.

Police had received a tip from an unknown caller about Ms White. The caller said she would be leaving her house at a certain time to drive to a motel and that she would be carrying illegal drugs.

Officers went to her home, watched her leave and drive away. They followed, and stopped her car close to the motel. She consented to the search in which the drugs were discovered.



Marchers demand Pinochet trial

Several thousand demonstrators marched through central Santiago on Tuesday demanding that former military ruler General Augusto Pinochet be tried for executions that took place following a coup he led in 1973.

The demonstration, the largest since Pinochet left power three months ago, was prompted by the discovery earlier this month of a mass grave of at least 20 firing-squad victims in northern Chile.

"The nightmare will not end as long as Pinochet wears a uniform," some 3,000 demonstrators chanted as they marched to Santiago's law courts building to demand justice.

The marchers are calling for Pinochet's removal as commander-in-chief of the army, a post he continues to hold since handing over power to elected civilian President Patricio Aylwin on March 11.

"Pinochet to the firing squad" walk, they shouted as police stood by. (Reuters wirephoto)

Shining Path rebels offer Peruvians no respite from political violence

LIMA, June 13, (AP): The guerrilla war that claims the lives of about nine Peruvians a day shows no sign of letting up following Alberto Fujimori's election victory.

Maoist Shining Path guerrillas set off a car bomb Monday night in downtown Cuzco, the country's most popular tourist centre, 350 miles (565 kilometres) south-east of Lima. One person was killed and eight wounded, according to police.

Three peasants also were murdered by the guerrillas earlier Monday in Ayacucho, 235 miles (375 kilometres) southeast of Lima. Police said the victims were shot in the head after being dragged from their homes with their hands bound.

The attacks came a day after a wide majority of Peruvians chose Fujimori to be their next president in an election marred by guerrilla violence.

At least 11 people, including five civilians, were killed in Peru's violent Andean region where guerrillas launched

more than a dozen election-day attacks.

One person died and at least eight were wounded when rebels tossed a bomb at a group of people forming a line at a voting station in Huancayo, 120 miles (190 kilometres) east of Lima.

The attacks reflected the guerrilla group's virulent rejection of democratic institutions and insistence on a centrally-controlled revolutionary state patterned after Mao Tse-tung's China.

The Shining Path surfaced 10 years ago with an attack against an election office in a village near Ayacucho, on the eve of Peru's first elections in 17 years.

Since then, more than 18,500 people have died, victims of violence on both sides. Most of those killed were innocent civilians caught in the political crossfire between the guerrillas and government forces.

Counterinsurgency experts estimate the Shining Path has at least 5,000 fighting members.



Hostage-taking incident

A police officer keeps close watch as two ambulance attendants work on another officer who was shot on June 11 in a six-hour hostage-taking incident at the New Westminster courthouse ended in a burst of gunfire. The gunman was shot and two other officers were slightly injured by flying debris. (Reuters wirephoto)

Racism embedded in Peru

Fujimori win infuriates racists

LIMA, June 13, (Reuters): Japanese-descended Alberto Fujimori's victory in Peru's presidential election has uncovered a disturbing current of racism in Peruvian society.

After Fujimori claimed victory on the basis of unofficial exit polls, a crowd of diehard supporters gathered outside the house of his rival Mario Vargas Llosa on Monday, demanding a military coup and screaming racist insults at the victor.

"We're going to get rid of Fujimori and send him back to Japan," said one of the demonstrators.

"All the dirty, ignorant and illiterate people of this country voted for the Oriental, but we, the people with culture, are not going to let him come to power," said another.

The campaign between Fujimori, a former university rector whose parents emigrated to Peru

from Japan, and his novelist rival turned bitter in the last month.

But neither candidate brought up the issue of race.

Vargas Llosa was shocked by his supporters' taunts, and said during the campaign: "Racism is the scourge of humanity and will have no place in this campaign." His plea had little effect.

As Fujimori voted on Sunday, opponents chanted "little Oriental thief" and "Peru for Peruvians."

Racism has been embedded in Peruvian society since Spanish conquistadores arrived in the 16th century and devastated the indigenous Indian population through war and disease. People of Indian descent are disdainfully called "cholos" by Peruvians of European ancestry and are often relegated to menial jobs.

"There is an enormous group of people... who are... racist," Lima psychologist Artidoro Caceres told Reuters.

"When things are calm, it does not float to the surface. But in times of crisis it becomes evident."

"Colonialism left a feeling that native races were inferior. Until about 30 years ago Peruvians who considered themselves aristocratic would not have Indian artefacts in the house, would not eat native food or listen to Indian music," he said.


Caceres said this racism had also been extended to black and Asian communities in Peru, although not to Jews or Arabs.

Some Peruvians of Japanese descent have been concerned about Fujimori's campaign, fearing it would draw attention to them.

People of Asian descent say they have been insulted in the street recently, denied entrance to elegant restaurants and bars and been suddenly ignored by neighbours and colleagues.

Fujimori, whose father, a tailor, arrived here in the 1930s fleeing the poverty which hit many rural areas in Japan in the depression after the 1929 financial crash, was not spared.

His daughter, Keiko Sofia, was recently denied entrance to an ice-cream parlour in Lima because she looked Japanese.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

America

Ex-FBI agent pleads guilty: An FBI agent solved a year-old homicide by confessing he strangled a pregnant woman with whom he had been having an affair.

Mark Putnam, 30, of Sunrise, Florida, was sentenced Tuesday to 16 years in prison after pleading guilty to manslaughter. His confession allowed authorities to find the remains of Susan Daniels Smith off a coal mine road in the eastern Kentucky Hills.

Putnam, who had used Ms Smith as an informant in a bank robbery and auto theft case, is believed to be the first agent in FBI history charged or convicted of a homicide-related crime. (AP)

'Suggest' stop selling rap album: Police vice officers visited 30 record stores, "suggesting" owners in San Antonio should remove a controversial album by rap group 2 Live Crew from their shelves or face possible legal action.

The action Tuesday sparked debate among local officials, business people and legal experts about the constitutional and legal wisdom of the move.

Despite outcries from civil libertarians and less-than-enthusiastic support from the district attorney's office and businesses, police vice-commander Lt. Jerry Pittman told the San Antonio Light the action was justified and would continue. (UPI)

Espionage trial: An ex-sergeant accused of causing a serious breach in US and Nato security by videotaping military secrets for delivery to Eastern European countries was ordered held without bond Tuesday pending his espionage trial.

Roderick James Ramsey, 28, a former assistant documents custodian for the US Army 8th infantry division in West Germany, said nothing during the five-minute detention hearing. (UPI)

Black candidate wins primary: A black businessman swamped a Ku Klux Klan supporter in an Arkansas runoff for the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor of the southern state.

In South Carolina, state Sen Theo Mitchell won a Democratic primary for the right to run against popular Republican Governor Carroll Campbell. Mitchell would be the state's first black governor.

In another election Tuesday, Atlantic City, New Jersey, Mayor James L. Ury, under indictment on charges of political corruption, lost a non-partisan runoff to city councilman Jim Whelan. Ury was the city's first black mayor. (AP)

Urges Bush to change mind: The United Nations' top environmental official urged US President George Bush to help poorer nations to abide by international agreements restricting chemicals that destroy the ozone layer.

Other industrial countries have already agreed to help the poorer nations abide by the accords. (Reuters)

Dukakis bomb joke: USAir said its staff erred in not detaining Gov Michael S. Dukakis for questioning when he was boarded a plane that there could be a bomb in a White House aide's luggage.

An airline supervisor who was present recognised the governor and determined the comments were made in a joking manner. Patricia Goldman, a spokeswoman for USAir in Arlington, Virginia, said Monday.

The flight Sunday night took off from Logan international airport as scheduled, bound for Washington DC. (AP)

Under fusion fire: University of Utah President Chase A. Peterson, a cheerleader for the "fusion" phenomenon, is retiring under fire for a hidden \$500,000 transfer of money toward its development.

Peterson, 60, said Monday he would retire next year but had no intention of resigning under pressure. (AP)

Weather delays cleanup: Cleanup crews Tuesday waited for calmer seas and clearer weather so they could unload thousands of gallons of diesel fuel that threatened to spill from a 90-foot (27-metre) gash in a cruise ship off Cape Cod.

About 7,500 gallons (28,500 litres) of fuel already had leaked from the 617-foot (188-metre) Bermuda Star, which ran onto a rocky ledge Sunday, and some oil washed onto about five miles (eight kilometres) of a rocky shoreline of Pristine Naushon Island, the Coast Guard said. (AP)



Protest

Angry demonstrators protest in front of the TV station against the Romanian government. The man shouting demands for an independent TV station studio. (Reuters wirephoto)

See also Pages 1, 9

Drug discounts

Couple split

GREENSBURG, PA. June 13. (UPI) Two senior citizens have split up their eight-year marriage — technically, at least — because their joint income is \$82.01 too high for a state aid programme.

Charles Wible, 76, and his wife Mary, 70, have separated so they can again qualify for prescription discounts under the state's Pharmaceutical Assistance Contract for the Elderly.

The programme provides deep drug discounts for single senior citizens earning less than \$12,000 a year and married senior couples with a combined income less than \$15,000.

The Wibles lost their Peace benefits when administrators determined that cost-of-living increases in their social security payments had pushed their combined annual income to \$15,082.

The cancellation forces the couple to pay full cost for drugs to treat Mary's diabetes and heart ailments and Charles' asthma. Their prescription bills total about \$347 a month, or \$4,164 a year.

Charles Wible packed his belongings and moved June 1 to a \$60-a-month efficiency. But the separation is in mailing address only, he said.

Bush's veto upheld: The Senate failed to muster a two-thirds majority Tuesday to override President George Bush's veto of legislation providing federal support for the Airtank passenger rail network.

The 64-36 vote to override on Bush's 66th birthday was three votes shy of the two-thirds majority needed.

The Republican Bush had vetoed the measure last month because he objected to a requirement tightening regulation of freight railroad ownership, and the house voted last week to override him. (AP)

Fireworks blast kills 2: Explosions felt up to 30 miles (48 kilometres) away rocked a small fireworks plant Tuesday, killing at least two people, authorities said.

An hour after the first explosion at 9 am witnesses said there were still minor explosions at the mid-south fireworks plant, located six miles (9.6 kilometres) southeast of Columbus, Mississippi.

The office of Lowndes County civil defence said its director, Richard Stripling, reported from the scene that there were two deaths and one injury confirmed so far. (AP)

Most wanted terrorist held

Second such capture in a week in East Germany

EAST BERLIN, June 13. (AP) East German police arrested one of West Germany's most wanted leftist terrorist suspects, the second such capture in a week, the government-run news agency said on Wednesday.

The arrest of 46-year-old Inge Viett immediately raised speculation that other members of the notorious West German terror organisation Red Army Faction will be found in East Germany.

The East German news agency ADN said Ms Viett was arrested in the East German city of Magdeburg.

In recent days, West German wanted posters had appeared in Magdeburg, with names

and pictures of Ms Viett and nine other accused, fugitive terrorists displayed on each poster, according to ADN. The posters asked East Germans who may have seen the suspects to notify authorities.

West German authorities have accused Ms Viett of taking part in the murder of a prominent West Berlin judge, Guenter von Drenkmann, in 1974.

She is also wanted in the kidnapping of West Berlin Christian Democratic leader Peter Lorenz a year later, among numerous other crimes.

There has already been speculation that the once-dreaded East German secret police were involved in harbouring West German terrorists.

Thornburgh in Sweden, talks on Lockerbie

STOCKHOLM, June 13. (Reuters) US Attorney General Dick Thornburgh made a lightning visit yesterday to Sweden, which has detained 11 Palestinians, to discuss the explosion which destroyed a Pan Am airliner over the Scottish town of Lockerbie.

Thornburgh arrived at short notice after conferring with police and lawyers in Scotland about the December 21, 1988, blast which killed 270 people.

"The talks included terrorism and Pan Am flight 103," a US embassy spokeswoman said after Thornburgh met Justice Minister Laila Freivalds and Civil Administration Minister Bengt Johansson, who is responsible for police.

Security sources said the United States wanted access to Palestinians held in Sweden who might be able to help investigations into the Lockerbie disaster.

The Swedish evening newspaper Idag quoted a US Justice Department spokesman in Washington as saying: "The purpose of (Thornburgh's) visit is to express appreciation for co-operation over Pan Am 103 and to request access to witnesses in a criminal investigation."

Swedish police detained 11 Palestinians in the city of Uppsala last week, including three they said they suspected and asked the government to expel them.

Security sources said one of those detained had been traced to an apartment in the West German town of Neuss where bomb-making equipment similar to that which might have triggered the Lockerbie explosion was later discovered.

The Palestinians are friends or relatives of three men convicted by a Swedish court last year on charges involving bomb attacks against US and Jewish targets in Amsterdam and Copenhagen in 1985.



Inge Viett was captured in Magdeburg during the night by a special unit of the criminal police. (Reuters wirephoto)

Basque gunman kills retired colonel

SAN SEBASTIAN, Spain, June 13. (AP) A suspected Basque separatist gunman shot and killed a retired army colonel today on a street near the beach in this northern city, a police spokesman said.

The young gunman stepped up behind the victim on a sidewalk, shot him once in the head and then fled on foot, said the police spokesman who was not identified in keeping with custom.

The shooting occurred at 11 am (0900 GMT) and a sole witness, being questioned by police, the spokesman said.

An hour later, the victim died in the city's Red Cross hospital, the institution said in a press release.

No group immediately claimed responsibility, but police said the attack bore the hallmarks of the Basque separatist organisation ETA.

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'Mercenary' held in boatmaker Aronow's slaying

MIAMI, June 13. (AP) A self-styled mercenary once freed from a Cuban prison by Jesse Jackson was arrested in the mysterious slaying of raceboat builder Don Aronow, police said.

Robert Young, 41, was booked into Dade County jail on a first-degree murder charge in the 1987 slaying in front of Aronow's boat yard, said metro Dade police spokeswoman Myriam Royle.

She said Young was indicted in March by a county grand jury, but refused to say if anyone else was involved.

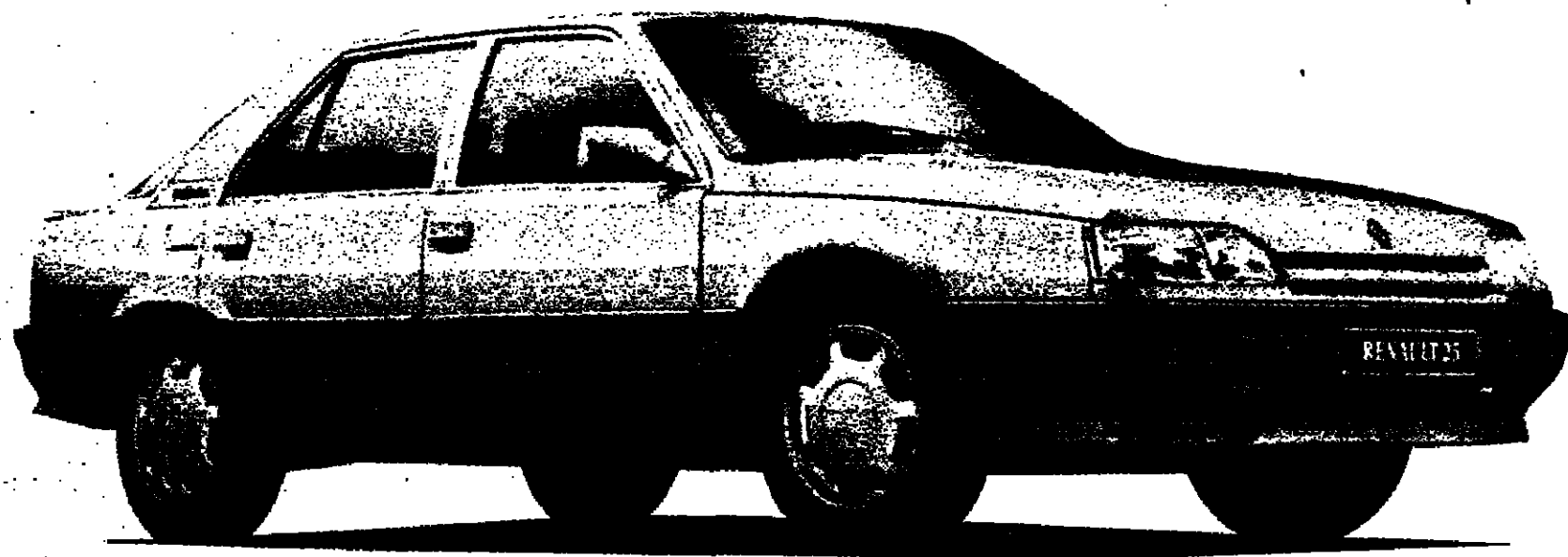
"There is no further comment at this time," Ms

Royle said.

Aronow, 59, designer of Donzi and Cigarette Speedboats and a world champion powerboat racer, was shot several times Feb. 3, 1987. Authorities said he was shot by a motorist who waited in a luxury car for him to leave his Miami Marina on a waterfront stretch often called "Thunderboat Row."

Aronow had sold his fast boats to famous figures around the world, including President George Bush, who named his boat Fidelity. Also on his list of customers were King Juan Carlos of Spain, the former Shah of Iran and ex-Beatle Ringo Starr.

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INTERNATIONAL

Business
as usual
for Thai
drug baron

CHIANG MAI, Thailand, June 13, (AP). Despite being indicted by the US government, it's business as usual for Chang Chi-Fu. And the heroin business has rarely been better.

Accused of smuggling vast quantities of heroin into the United States, one of the globe's top drug traffickers appears more concerned by a rival tribe than by Washington.

The US government has branded Chang — better known by the alias of Khun Sa — as the "prince of death" and the drugs kingpin of the Golden Triangle. It threatened to "go after him if he can be located."

Sources who said they were with Khun Sa when he learned of the indictment — announced in Washington March 15 — described the charismatic, chain-smoking warlord as angry but not particularly worried.

And since then, he has made neither noticeable changes in his operations nor is there any indication the outflow of heroin from his area of control inside Burma has decreased.

The United States has been vague about plans to seize him. It publicly ruled out large-scale military action such as that which netted Panamanian strongman and alleged drug-trafficker Gen. Manuel Noriega last December.

Futile

Analysts note the jungle and mountain terrain which is Khun Sa's home ground would make military operations difficult, costly and possibly futile.

Thai officials say there has been no substantial pressure on them from Washington to move against Khun Sa. And Burma is unlikely to co-operate, given Washington's denunciation of Rangoon's military junta which seized power after brutally crushing a pro-democracy uprising in 1988. In protest, Washington cut off its anti-narcotics aid programme to Rangoon.

Currently, Khun Sa is engaged in one of the perennial conflicts of the triangle — rugged, largely lawless territory where the borders of Burma, Laos and Thailand converge.

This time around, Khun Sa's Muang Thai state army is trying to stop a potentially powerful Wa tribe grouping from muscling in on its territory. One of Burma's multitude of ethnic minorities, the Wa broke away from the outlawed Burma Communist Party, which had emerged as a major narcotics grower and trafficker in 1980s.

A mini-opium war has been waged in areas near the Thai frontier over when Khun Sa enjoys control, thus allowing opium transported from deeper inside Burma to be processed into heroin at border refineries. From there, the heroin is smuggled through Thailand to the United States, Australia, Western Europe and Asian points.

Estimates

According to official US estimates, the Triangle's opium crop in the 1988-89 growing season amounted to 2,600 tons, some 85 per cent of it from Burma. A similar amount is expected this year.

Washington has focused on the drugs deluge from Latin America and the so-called Golden Crescent of Pakistan and Afghanistan which had supplied much of the heroin to American addicts. But this has changed, and now at least 40 to 50 per cent of heroin imported into the United States originates in the Triangle.

Some knowledgeable observers speculate the US indictment was not so much a prelude to direct action against Khun Sa as a message to Thailand and Burma.

Melvin Levitsky, the US State Department's top narcotics official has criticised corruption in Thailand which allows drugs to transit the country in vast quantities as well as Burmese government connections with the drug warlords.

Khun Sa, who is believed to have been born in 1932, emerged as a narcotics trader in the 1960s although he has always claimed to be a freedom fighter for Burma's Shan minority saying he must use narcotics to finance his rebellion. On several occasions he has offered without success to sell the opium crop to the United States and thus keep it off the world's illicit markets.

He has survived numerous battles and five years' imprisonment. In 1982, he was driven out of his Thai stronghold — complete with swimming pool and plush quarters — and into Burma. The Thais have a 500,000-baht (\$19,000) bounty on his head, but his links with Thailand remain.

He buys mortars, recoilless rifles and heavy machine-guns on the Thai black market to supply his army, estimated at between 4,000 and 10,000 men.



Khun Sa shown at his headquarters in Burma's Shan State June 13. (Reuters wirephoto)

Halt forced
repatriation

Asia Watch tells Thais

BANGKOK, June 13, (AP). A US human rights group has called on Thailand to halt the forced repatriation of Burmese refugees, a statement seen today said.

Thai police and troops in the northwestern town of Mae Sot last Thursday rounded up about 1,000 Burmese civilians they said were illegal migrant workers and forced them across the Moai river back into Burma.

In a statement dated yesterday, Asia Watch urged US President George Bush to demand an end to the deportations when Thai Prime Minister Chatichai Choonhavan visits Washington. Chatichai was due to meet Bush Thursday.

"The Thai government appears to be cynically exploiting the results of Burma's elections in order to rid itself of a swelling population of refugees who have fled Burma in fear of their lives," said the statement seen in Bangkok.

Last week Thai officials said there was no danger for the Burmese to return as there was now democracy in Burma.

On May 27 Burmese voted overwhelmingly for democratic change in their first free election in 30 years, but doubts remain whether the military will hand over power.

The Asia Watch statement



A lone Beijing resident rows past dozens of empty boats on Beihai lake June 11 as most people chose to remain in the shade as temperatures across China pushed into the mid-30s. (Reuters wirephoto)

Cory was warned of brownouts: NPC memo

Blackouts unless alternative found for mothballed nuclear plant

MANILA, June 13, (UPI). President Corason Aquino was warned barely a month after she took office her country would face blackouts unless she found alternatives to a nuclear power plant she decided to mothball, a memo released today showed.

The document dated March 18, 1986, was sent by Gabriel Itchon, then president of the government National Power Corp., to Aquino through her Public Works and Highways Minister, Rogacion Mercado.

It was made available to United Press

International amid massive power shortages in Manila caused by a prolonged drought and recurrent breakdowns in oil-fired thermal plants.

Aquino decided to mothball the 620-megawatt nuclear plant on Bataan province across Manila Bay over safety considerations, two months after she became president following the civilian-backed military revolt on Feb 25, 1986.

In December 1988, the Aquino government sued Westinghouse Electric Corp., its subsidiary Westinghouse International

Projects Co., and the engineering firm Burns and Roe Enterprises Inc. of Oradell, New Jersey, charging them with fraud in securing the contract to build the Bataan nuclear plant from the regime of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

The government wants to recover \$2.1 billion from Westinghouse, the biggest single component of the Philippines' outstanding foreign debt of \$28 billion.

The Itchon memo was sent to Aquino upon instruction of the NPC board giving options on what her government should

do if she decided against operating the nuclear plant. The decision to mothball was made April 30, 1986.

The document said that "if the nuclear power plant will not operate, construction of replacement power plants will have to be started very soon to forestall brownouts-blackouts in Luzon as early as 1989 or 1990."

"Construction period of around three years is involved, and an investment of around \$600 million is required," the memo said.

Sweeping
changes
in China
military

BEIJING, June 13, (Reuters). Chinese generals have been reshuffled and retired in sweeping military changes carried out with senior leader Deng Xiaoping's approval, foreign defence analysts said.

The changes have been accompanied by a drive by the People's Liberation Army to expand contacts abroad, notably with the Soviet Union and the Middle East, while the West maintains a ban on military co-operation imposed against China a year ago.

China's official media have not formally announced the personnel changes — the most significant in five years — and the Defence Ministry has declined comment.

"Why the news blackout? To keep instability to a minimum over this sensitive period," a Western analyst said, referring to the anniversary this month of last year's military crackdown on the pro-democracy movement in Beijing.

An Asian diplomat said the changes strengthened the hand of President Yang Shangkun, 83, and his brother General Yang Baibing. "But it has Deng's approval," he added. "I firmly believe that Deng is still the man in power."

The diplomat said the reshuffle represented a further diminishing of the power of individual regional commanders.

Deng, 85, has within the last year retired from the Communist Party's all-powerful Central Military Commission and the state's equivalent body.

His chosen successor, party leader Jiang Zemin, head of both commissions but has no military experience. Diplomats say he will need firm support from the Yang family to maintain his position at the top after Deng's death.

President Yang is the number two on both commissions while his younger brother heads the general political department of the party's military commission.

As far as diplomats are aware, six of China's seven regional commanders have been moved — two to other regions, the others into retirement or recalled to the centre.

Five of the seven powerful political commissars have also been changed.

Several other generals have apparently been retired, some because of age.

China's most famous actor-politician, Ying Ruocheng, has been dismissed as vice-minister of culture, the official Xinhua news agency said yesterday.

Ying was a proponent of greater artistic freedom, along with his former superior, short-story writer Wang Meng, who was fired as culture minister in September.

A senior aide to Taiwan President Lee Teng-hui yesterday rejected a proposal from China for talks between the two nations' governing political parties as a step toward eventual reunification.

The mayor of Shanghai said yesterday he hopes to free "very soon" all dissidents still under detention in this Chinese city for their involvement in last year's pro-democracy movement.

An old artillery shell that a student brought to class exploded in a crowded rural Chinese schoolroom, killing two pupils and wounding 24, the official media reported today.

A landslide sent a torrent of mountain rock onto homes in a village in south China's Guangxi province, killing at least 11 people, most of them children, the state-run press reported today.

Aquino forms base
to seek re-election

Pressure to speed up reforms

MANILA, June 13, (AP). President Corason Aquino announced a new political alliance yesterday in a move widely seen as aimed at pressuring Congress into speeding reforms and as giving her a possible base to run for a second term in 1992.

Aquino insisted her new movement, called "Kabisig," or "shoulder-to-shoulder," was not a political party but a lobby group to co-ordinate programme aimed at improving national livelihood.

"What we are building is a political movement, not a political party," Aquino told about 15,000 people at an independence day rally at

Luneta Park. Thousands of troops and police were on full alert to prevent disruption by right-wing military mutineers responsible for six coup attempts since Aquino took power in the 1986 uprising that toppled the late president Ferdinand Marcos.

Several hundred leftist staged separate rallies in the capital and near the US-run Clark Air Base but there were no incidents.

In her speech, Aquino invited members of other parties to join the movement and chided Congress for blocking reform legislation.



'Fly-swatting campaign'

School children armed with fly-swatters attack trash bins in a sidestreet of Beijing June 13. A city-wide fly-swatting campaign was launched intent on clearing the capital of winged pests for the upcoming Asian Games scheduled for September. (Reuters wirephoto)

Imelda trial resumes

US denies seeking help on bases

NEW YORK, June 13, (AP). The racketeering trial of Imelda Marcos resumed yesterday, and the State Department denied it approached Mrs Marcos to help negotiate military base leases with the Philippine government.

The trial in Manhattan's federal court had been in recess since May 31 when Mrs Marcos collapsed in the courtroom with a stomach ailment and was hospitalised for three days.

"I feel fine," Mrs Marcos said when she arrived at the courthouse yesterday. She said she felt well enough to continue the trial.

A New York Post article on May 31 quoted Mrs Marcos as saying she was approached in New York by State Department representatives who suggested a deal in which she could stand trial in her homeland in return for her assistance in resolving the US-Philippine base agreement.

In a letter to the prosecutor's office, made available to reporters, Jamison M. Selby, the department's assistant legal adviser on East Asian and Pacific affairs, said the report was "entirely without foundation."

Selby said he spoke with more than a dozen officials who would have authorised or been aware of such a meeting.

However, one of Mrs Mar-



Imelda

cos' attorneys, Benjamin Cassidy, insisted that two "State Department-connected" people did meet with Mrs Marcos over memorial day weekend.

Cassidy said he refused to say who they were, or under what auspices they went to see the former Philippine first lady at 2 am on May 25.

"It's political and it isn't part of our case," he said.

The leases on Clark air force base and Subic Bay naval base in the Philippines expire this summer. The United States is seeking to extend the leases over opposition in the Philippines.

Mrs Marcos, 60, has been on trial since March 20 on charges

of racketeering conspiracy, mail fraud and obstruction of justice.

She is accused of helping her late husband, former Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos, embezzle more than \$220 million from their country's treasury to buy real estate and art in New York.

Her co-defendant, Saudi financier Adnan Khashoggi, is charged with mail fraud and obstruction of justice for allegedly helping the Marcoses hide their ownership of the real estate.

The trial resumed without mention of Mrs Marcos' collapse in front of the jury. The only indication that she had been ill was an emergency medical kit next to her personal doctor who was seated behind her.

Mrs Marcos also returned to court without a portable monitor she had previously worn because of a blood pressure condition.

In testimony, the prosecution called FBI agent Robert Reich to explain a large chart that outlined the flow of funds from the Philippines for the purchase of an office building at 200 Madison Ave.

The building is among four New York properties the government claims that the Marcoses bought with embezzled money.

"I am clearly telling them now, if you want to help, if you want an administration measure, to be passed, do not wait for me to talk to you," she said. "Because if you really want to help me, you will pass administration measures."

Pro-administration parties command large majorities in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. But recently, the administration has faced opposition to several key proposals.

Last week, because of legislative opposition, the administration dropped plans to seek a six-month extension of emergency powers granted Aquino after the Dec 19 coup attempt.

In April, Congress blocked confirmation of Florencio Abad as agrarian reform secretary because of his liberal views. Opposition to Abad was spearheaded by the Struggle of the Democratic Filipino, established two years ago as an avowed pro-Aquino party.

What hurts me and what I cannot accept is people telling me that they are my friends but opposing my administration measures at the same time," Aquino said in her speech.

Last week, presidential press secretary Tomas Gomez said Aquino would unveil a new movement because she was disgusted with "traditional politicians," those who represent landlord, business or other special interests.

However, pro-administration leaders of Congress warned that the move could lead to the breakup of the shaky coalition that brought Aquino to power four years ago.

Several Congressional leaders and political commentators speculated that Aquino would use "Kabisig" to launch a bid for re-election, although she has insisted she will not seek a new term.

The 1987 constitution limits presidents to one six-year term. But it also states that the first regular election held under the constitution will be that of 1992. Aquino's supporters say that exempts her from the one-term limit.

Also yesterday, a former provincial governor sought in the Dec. 1-9 coup attempt surrendered more than three months after fleeing in an incident in which a brigadier general was killed.

Kidnappers of
Japan workers
charged with

BACOLOD, Philippines, June 13, (AP). The military today recommended kidnapping charges be filed against four suspected communist rebels in the abduction of a Japanese island worker in the central Philippine island of Negros two weeks ago.

Civilian and religious volunteers trying to make contact with the abductors of Fumio Mizuno say the military move may jeopardise attempts to free him.

Capt. Victor Ornonia, representing the Philippine Constabulary Command on the island, named Nonoy Bacmayo, a communist rebel leader, on Negros and three other unnamed accomplices in the charges presented to Bacolod's prosecution office.

Mizuno, 36, training director of the Tokyo-based organisation for industrial, spiritual, and cultural advancement, was visiting the organisation's "silkworm project" in Murcia town in Negros Occidental province when suspected New People's Army rebels kidnapped him May 29.

WHO predicts Aids will increase in developing nations, among heterosexuals

WASHINGTON, June 13, (AP). Rapid spread of the Aids virus in developing countries means the disease will be more widespread in the next century than previously thought, the World Health Organisation says.

The current projection that up to 20 million people will have been infected by 2000 also is expected to be pushed up by a rise in heterosexual transmission of the disease in industrialised countries, said Michael Merson, director of the WHO global programme on Aids.

WHO estimates that 6 million to 8 million people

world-wide have been infected with the human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV, that causes Aids. "It is very unlikely that the global prevalence of HIV infection will stabilise or level off for at least several decades," he said.

WHO considers its forecast that 15 million to 20 million people will be infected by the turn of the century to be a minimum estimate, and new projections won't be ready until late this year or 1991, Merson said.

WHO's earlier projections were based on data that did not reflect the magnitude of the problem.

In 1985, somewhere around 50 per cent of the world's total infections, we estimated, were in developing countries. But now we estimate that by the year 2000, 75 to 80 per cent will be in developing countries and by the year 2010 as much as 90 per cent," Merson said in an interview.

"In addition, if HIV infections increase rapidly in Asia and Latin America, as they did in Africa, then the current projections of 15 to 20 million ... will need to be revised significantly upward," he said.

Merson declined to estimate how high the projection could go.

The virus is spread mainly by sexual contact, needles or syringes shared by drug abusers, infected blood and blood products, and by pregnant women to their babies.

In the United States, most of the people with Aids have been homosexual men and intravenous drug users, but Merson said that the rate of heterosexual transmission is increasing in the United States and in other industrialised countries.

About 60 per cent of HIV infections world-wide have resulted from heterosexual intercourse, but by the turn of the century, the proportion is expected to rise as high as 80 per cent, Merson said.

US fears of nuclear war exploding in South Asia grow

WASHINGTON, June 13, (Reuters): Some US experts fear the danger of nuclear war is greater now than at any time in the past decade — not between the superpowers but involving India and Pakistan.

They believe war could explode again in South Asia over the disputed territory of Kashmir, India's only state with a majority Muslim population.

And if war breaks out in India and Pakistan, "each side must assume that the other will deploy and possibly use an atomic bomb," said Gary Milhollin, director of the University

of Wisconsin's project on nuclear arms control.

President George Bush sent his deputy National Security Adviser, Robert Gates, to India and Pakistan last month to urge their leaders to seek a peaceful solution to the Kashmir dispute.

"You don't send someone at that level out lightly and publicly — unless there's a genuine concern that the confrontation might get out of hand," said Richard Murphy, an assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs during the Reagan administration.

The distrust between India and Pakistan has erupted in war three times since independence from Britain in 1947, twice over Kashmir.

India controls two-thirds of the Himalayan territory, called Jammu and Kashmir, while the remainder, ruled by Pakistan, is known as Azad (free) Kashmir.

Kashmir separatists have stoked the conflict with a rebellion against Indian rule that has killed more than 400 people so far this year.

India accused Islamabad of arming and training the militants behind the revolt. Pakistan denied the charge, saying the uprising stemmed from India's refusal to allow Kashmiris to determine their own future.

In a fourth Indo-Pakistani war, much more would be at stake than the fate of Kashmir.

It would be the first major military conflict in history between two states with possible access to nuclear arms, which have not been used in war since the United States dropped two atomic bombs on Japan in 1945.

Neither side is thought to have deployed

nuclear weapons yet, and some specialists doubt either of them has stockpiled such weapons.

Leonard Spector, an expert on undeclared nuclear bombs at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, a Washington research organisation, said both countries probably could deploy nuclear weapons quickly, perhaps within weeks.

India's force could total 40 to 60 weapons, deliverable on any of some 200 advanced aircraft, while Pakistan probably can make five to 10 bombs and possesses 40 to 50 first-

class strike aircraft, according to Spector.

Bennett Ramberg, author of "Nuclear Power Plants as Weapons from the Enemy: An Unrecognised Military Peril," argued in his book that India is a nuclear hostage because its dozen or so civilian nuclear reactors, some of them close to the border, are clear targets for Pakistani conventional weapons.

Pakistan's two reactors, on the other hand, are deeper inside the country and pose less of a threat if hit because they are smaller.

Tigers massacre policemen

Tamil rebels attack army camps; more troops rushed

COLOMBO, June 13, (Agencies): The government today rushed 3,000 more soldiers to the east coast, where Tamil rebels were attacking military camps on the day a ceasefire was to begin, security officials said.

Military officials said they feared the rebels had killed more than 100 policemen who were among 600 officers taken prisoner in eastern Batticaloa district on Monday.

The officials cited a report from an injured policeman, who was among the 600 captured when rebels took command of 11 police stations in the east. They said the policeman escaped the rebels and reached a military camp yesterday. The officials quoted the policeman as saying 115 of his colleagues had been shot and killed by rebels.

The 3,000-strong reinforcement joined 1,200 soldiers that had been deployed yesterday to regions where fighting has raged for three consecutive days, officials said.

Tamil rebels have been fighting since 1973 for more political autonomy. They claim they are discriminated against by the majority Sinhalese. Tamils form 18 per cent of Sri Lanka's 16 million people; Sinhalese make up 75 per cent.

The new attacks today on the camps at Kiran, Kalavanchukudi and Kalmunai, all in Batticaloa district, came hours before a ceasefire was to take effect, the officials said.

The ceasefire was supposed to begin at noon today (0630 GMT) but fighting was still occurring as the deadline passed. An agreement on the line had been reached during talks between Justice Minister Shajid Hameed and guerrilla leaders in northern Jaffna yesterday, a government communiqué said.

Throughout the night, rebels took command of police stations in the north and northwest, the military said. By this morning seven more police stations were in rebel hands, the military said.

Rebel forces raided, seized, arms and ammunition in police stations in Vavuniya in the north and Mannar in the northwest, officials said.

The fighting apparently erupted when a Tamil man told the Tigers he had been assaulted by Sinhalese policemen at the Batticaloa police station on Sunday, officials said.

The Tigers on Monday ordered policemen out of the station and took command, officials said.

The Tigers took virtual control of the northeastern districts after Indian peacekeeping forces withdrew in March. President Ranasinghe Premadasa's government, which has been negotiating with the Tigers for the past year, requested the Indians' departure.

Western diplomats warned the fighting could end Colombo's efforts to persuade the Tigers to accept a form of limited autonomy for Tamil-dominated parts of the island.

"It could burst into a full-scale war and put 13 months of peace talks between the government and rebels in jeopardy," a Western diplomat said today.

One diplomat said he believed the Tigers may be trying to score military successes against security forces to strengthen their hand in political negotiations that are focussing on a regional council.

The council is dominated by another Tamil militant group, the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front. Tigers boycotted 1988 elections to the council. They are now demanding the council be dissolved and fresh elections held.

Military sources said apart from the kidnapped policemen who were shot to death, at least 25 army and police officers and 25 rebels have been killed since Monday.

Unconfirmed reports said 117 of 600 policemen abducted from their posts were killed.

The island newspaper, quoting a police sub-inspector who escaped from the Tigers, said that many of the captured policemen had been lined up and shot. He said he heard the death cries of his colleagues as he bolted into the jungle.

The military sources said guerrillas intensified their attacks on army camps at Kalmunai, Kalavanchukudi and Kiran in eastern Batticaloa and Amparai districts as the noon ceasefire deadline approached.

About 3,000 troop reinforcements were rushed to the east last night to help ground forces there.

By today the Tigers had captured 11 more police posts including eight in northern areas.

Remains of 30 MIAs in boat

KUALA LUMPUR, June 13, (AP): The US embassy said today it is investigating a report that nine Vietnamese refugees had brought to Malaysia the skeletons of 30 people believed to be American soldiers.

The New Straits Times, in a front page story from Kota Tinggi, 250 kms (150 miles) south of Kuala Lumpur, said today that a local official had reported intercepting a boat carrying nine Vietnamese and seven barrels containing the remains of 30 people.

The Vietnamese claimed the skeletons were those of US servicemen missing in action (MIAs), it said.

"We have read the report. We are investigating and as of now we have no confirmation," said Meg Gilroy, press officer at the US embassy.

She said the remains would be taken to the US Defense Department forensic laboratory in Hawaii for study.

Paul Blakeburn, charge d'affaires at the US embassy, said he doubted that the bones were those of Americans missing in action.

"It is possible, but it is not likely to be true," Blakeburn said.

A Vietnamese embassy spokesman said officials there had had no further information or confirmation.

A senior Malaysian refugee official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Malaysian authorities were arranging to hand the bones over to the embassy.

It would be up to the Americans to investigate the refugees' claim that the bones were those of US soldiers, he said.

Officials at the Kota Tinggi police station said the officer who found the boat, deputy superintendent of police Roslan Dolah, was not available for comment. Other officials were not authorised to comment, they said.

The report in the New Straits Times said the Vietnamese boat, which was about 16 metres (52 feet) long, had the words "USA remains in my boat" and "this boat have USA army remains" written across its sides.

The Vietnamese in the boat said they left their country on May 30 and were forced to land at Tanjung Sedili beach, 50 kms (36 miles) east of Kota Tinggi, Monday when their vessel began to leak, it said.

The New Straits Times said police found metal tags on the skeletons.

"The tags had the names and unit numbers and addresses of the dead men, believed to have been killed during the Vietnam war," Roslan was quoted as saying. "We are investigating the reasons for the refugees bringing the skeletons with them."

The United States currently lists 2,303 missing in action, or MIAs, from the Indochina war.

Afghan minister flays Pakistan

NEW DELHI, June 13, (Kuna): Visiting Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil said India should be involved in any "peace process or regional conference" on the settlement of the Afghan problem, and flayed Pakistan for its open interference in the internal affairs of India.

These views were expressed by Wakil during his meeting yesterday with Indian External Affairs Minister I.K. Gujral and later at the inaugural session of the ninth Indo-Afghan joint commission meeting.

Abdul Wakil said India's involvement in peace negotiations was necessary because of its prominence in the Non-Aligned Movement.



Sri Lankan soldiers rush to the east coast areas to quell the Tamil Tigers' attacks launched hours before the scheduled ceasefire Wednesday. (Reuters wirephoto)

French priest preaching gospel in a Tokyo bar

'The salaryman is lonely; in Epopee he can find friendship away from his work'

TOKYO, June 13, (Reuters): A 70-year-old French priest is spreading the gospel in unlikely surroundings, a bar just a stone's throw from one of Tokyo's gaudiest red-light districts.

Father Georges Neyrand opened "Epopee" in 1980 in order to reach Japan's "salarymen," the white-collar workers who spend long hours in the office and on commuter trains, and long hours drinking with their colleagues.

"As in all the big cities of the world, the salaryman is lonely. He does not know his neighbours and usually does not see his family members often. Here he can find friendship away from his work," said Neyrand, sipping a whisky.

Around him a dozen customers sat at the wooden counter, eating and drinking below shelves crammed with bottles. The small bar, on the fourth floor of a building full of bars and restaurants, gets an average of 25 customers a night.

For the first eight years, Neyrand served behind the counter for six in the evening until midnight, before age got the better of him. Now he comes in every evening and sits on the other side of the counter.

"In ten years, I have baptised 30 people, aged from 20 to 70," he said recently.

"I plan to open a second bar next year, also in

Shinjuku. I think I will find the money," he said with a smile.

Shinjuku, by day a bustling commercial district and home of many of Japan's biggest corporations, turns at night into a neon-lit pleasure garden.

Against this backdrop, Neyrand battles for souls. He chose Shinjuku because it is one of the most popular places for businessmen to relax after their workaholic day.

He clearly fills a need. A mass and party last Christmas drew 335 people, 80 of them Catholic. A native of Lyons, Neyrand arrived in Japan in 1952, spent three years studying the language and

then 20 years working with students at a religious centre in Tokyo.

He also taught French and theology, translated a novel by celebrated Japanese author Yukio Mishima and has written an autobiography in Japanese.

Neyrand's bar was funded by friends who became shareholders — including his bishop who approved the project.

Neyrand says he has had to learn new skills. "With students, you can discuss abstract ideas, like liberty or the reason for life. But not here. The approach must be different, more concrete," he said.

Six Cambodian officials arrested: A cabinet minister is among at least six senior government officials and army officers arrested and accused of trying to form a rival political party, a US human rights group said in a statement on Tuesday.

Asia Watch said the officials were arrested between May 21 and May 25 on suspicion of trying to set up the Kanarek Sangkum Pracheatipatey Serei, or liberal Social Democratic Party.

Cambodia's one-party communist administration was installed by a Vietnamese invasion of the country in late 1978. It continues to fight three guerrilla groups backed by China and other countries.

The statement, dated Tuesday and seen in Bangkok, yesterday, said the executive director of Asia Watch, Sidney Jones, was in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh at the time of the arrests. (AP)

Dalai Lama predicts upheaval: Tibet's exiled leader, the Dalai Lama, predicted in an interview published on Tuesday that communism could collapse bloodily in China within two years.

"If all other totalitarian, communist regimes are crashing, why should the one in China hold out?" the Dalai Lama, winner of the 1989 Nobel peace prize, told the daily Svenska Dagbladet.

The Tibetan leader, revered by followers as a god-king, said China could plunge into political turmoil within two years.

"It can happen in many different ways, and there is a risk that much blood could be spilled," he said. "So it is a moral duty to support those forces in China which want liberalisation without resorting to violence." (Reuters)

Guam officials upset: The accidental discharge of 235 gallons (890 litres) of slightly radioactive water into Apra harbour from a nuclear-powered submarine has Guam officials upset. But not nearly as much as the navy keeping it a secret for six months.

"Certainly I'm disappointed that the navy did not inform us," said Governor Joseph Ada of the US island territory. "The government of Guam has certain jurisdiction in this."

The navy disclosed in a statement issued yesterday the discharge of the contaminated water from the USS Guitario in December as the submarine prepared to leave the harbour to ride out an approaching typhoon at sea. (AP)

Three arrested in Sabah plot: There was a plot to take Sabah state out of Malaysia, the Inspector-General of Police Hamid Omar said on Tuesday. He said three men involved in the conspiracy were detained recently under the Internal Security Act.

He told newsmen that the police had been monitoring their activities since 1987, adding: "Police investigations are still on."

The three detained are Sabah air chairman Banabas, Tarpin alias Benedict and two ex-policemen Alhamus Yudah and Damit Undikai. (Kuna)

Gold seized from Pakistani ship: Malaysian police seized gold plates and silver bars worth about \$3 million from a Pakistani ship on way from Singapore to Dubai last Friday.

A police spokesman who confirmed said the 11 crew members of the Alatsi which was checked while in Malaysian waters off Port Klang had been detained.

On checking the hatch of the ship, police found 2,000 pieces of gold plates and 351 silver bars. He added the crew members together with the seized gold and silver had been handed to the customs authorities for further action. (Kuna)

New Zealand detains three: New Zealand customs officials detained three people at Christchurch airport yesterday after busting an operation to smuggle rare parrots out of the country.

They discovered eight keas, an alpine bird unique to New Zealand, hidden in two suitcases being loaded onto a flight for Singapore. Conservation Protection manager Ken Hughes said.

One of the birds, loved by New Zealanders for their cheeky and inquisitive personalities, was found dead. They had been drugged and stuffed into plastic tubes for the flight. (Reuters)

Thais end brothel tradition: Students at a Thai university, fearful of Aids, have abandoned a tradition of taking freshmen to prostitutes.

The students union of northeastern Khon Kaen University ordered students not to take freshmen to brothels after their reception on Sunday and instead organised an Aids lecture. The Nation newspaper reported yesterday.

Latest government figures show Thailand has more than 16,000 HIV-positive cases, the first stage of acquired immune deficiency syndrome. (Reuters)

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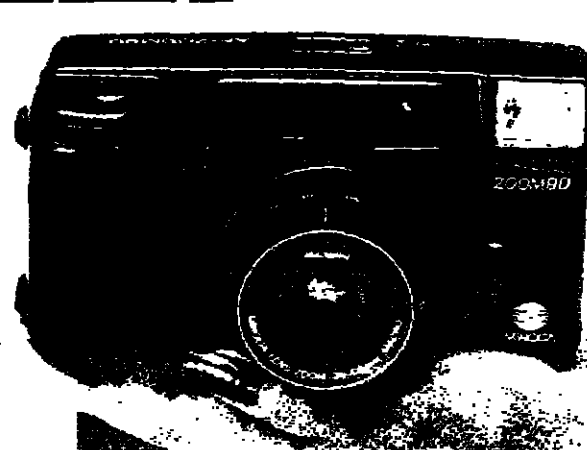
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142m Africans ill-fed: FAO

MARRAKESH, Morocco, June 13. (Reuters) Over 142 million Africans or one in three are chronically malnourished, a UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) meeting was told today.

A report submitted to FAO's 16th regional conference for Africa attended by 51 African states said the number of ill-fed people was increasing in sub-Saharan Africa.

From 86 million in 1969-71 it rose to 142 million in 1983-85 or 35.2 per cent of the continent's population.

The rise is partly due to population growth averaging three per cent a year while agricultural production increases on average only two per cent annually.

"The continued high proportion of the population that is undernourished (is) an indication that the situation is not improving," a senior FAO source said.

"Efforts to effectively address the problem of hunger and malnutrition have usually met with limited success," the FAO report said.

It said various food support and action programmes in Africa were no substitute for a long-term strategy.

The FAO and World Health Organisation (WHO) had therefore decided to hold an international conference on nutrition in Rome in December next year to draft a global strategy.

FAO Director-General Edouard Saouma said "nutritional activities all too often still occupy a marginalised position far removed from the mainstream of agricultural and development planning."

The FAO warned that it could take 20 years to train enough nutrition experts, economists and planners in the food and agriculture sector.

Mozambique Mozambique officials and a rebel leader arrived in neighbouring Malawi yesterday for their first face-to-face talks aimed at ending a devastating 13-year civil war, the national news agency reported.

As of last night, however, there was no indication that talks had begun, the AIM news agency said.

Earlier in the day, Afonso Dhlakama, leader of the Mozambique National Resistance rebels, arrived in Blantyre, Malawi's capital, AIM said. (AP)

Zimbabwe Mozambique rebels backed to death five children and two women in attacks on villages in Zimbabwe's eastern mountains, police said yesterday.

At least 14 peasants were wounded in the two raids last Thursday and Saturday, assistant police commissioner Eric Makombe said.

One of the victims of the first raid on Chitondo village near the Mozambique frontier was a nine-month-old baby girl, he said. (AP)

Kenya A Kenyan political official threatened to chop off the fingers of anyone flashing a two-finger salute in favour of a multi-party system in Kenya, the local daily Nation newspaper reported yesterday.

Wilson Leitch, a branch chairman of Kenya's only party, Kanu, instructed young party members to "walk around carrying knives while in plain clothes and look out for those flashing the two-finger salute," the Nation said.

He accused bus drivers of being among multi-party supporters using the gesture. (UPI)

Nigeria The International Federation of Newspaper Publishers yesterday urged Nigeria to reopen two newspapers closed after an alleged press crackdown following a coup attempt.

Federation President Jan Nouwen expressed "deep distress" in a letter to Nigerian President Ibrahim Babangida over the forced closures of the vanguard and daily champion newspapers. (AP)

Mauritius French President Francois Mitterrand flew to Mauritius on the second leg of a tour of the Southeastern Indian Ocean islands yesterday, facing opposition to France's political, economic and military leverage in the region.

The island's opposition Lali Party objected to Mitterrand's visit, and placards placed throughout Mauritius yesterday demanded Mitterrand return home and an end to French military dominance in the region extending from Djibouti to the Keurgelen Islands. (UPI)

Zaire This Central African nation's Association of Jurists is calling on President Mobutu Sese Seko to organise a full investigation of an alleged massacre of up to 150 students at the University of Lubumbashi.

Mobutu's government has insisted that only one student was killed in the May 11 incident, which it says was the result of faction fighting among ethnic groups at the university. (AP)



Government soldiers stand guard at Liberia's international airport on June 12. The airport is less than fifty kilometres from the capital, Monrovia. The government is still in control of the airport. (Reuters wirephoto)

Liberian airport in army hands

Reiterate demand for Doe to quit

Liberia rebels pledge polls

ROBERTSFIELD, Liberia, June 13. (UPI) Robertsfield International Airport, under siege by rebels trying to overthrow the Liberian government, is abandoned but under the complete control of regular army troops, a visit to the facility showed yesterday.

Heavily armed soldiers escorted visiting journalists around deserted terminal buildings and through nearby half-abandoned villages 35 miles (56 km) from the capital of Monrovia.

Major Sekajebio Kortor, in charge of troops stationed at the airport, said he had been stationed there for over one week and that his men had held the field continuously. He said no aircraft had landed because the airport staff, including traffic controllers, had fled.

"But the security here is very tight," he said. "Any plane can land without any problem. It would be fully protected."

Fighting has been sporadic, soldiers at the airport said, ahead of peace talks that got underway yesterday in Freetown, Sierra Leone. But no one looked happy at being in the front line of defence for President Samuel Doe's capital city.

The soldiers at the field as well as those at checkpoints along the

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone, June 13. (UPI) Liberia rebels committed themselves today to holding free elections before the end of the year if they succeed in overthrowing the government of President Samuel Doe.

While rebel leader Charles Taylor has promised in the past to hold elections if he comes to power, the statement at the peace talks marked the first time the rebels had set a timetable for the voting.

In an interview with a French newspaper last week, Taylor said only that a transitional government made up entirely of his National Patriotic Front members would be established if he came to power. He refused to set a date for new elections.

The next regular elections in Liberia are not scheduled until the end of 1991.

But the rebels reiterated their demand that Doe and his government must resign before they agree to a cease-fire.

The talks, which began yesterday at the US

Embassy in Freetown, were organised by the Liberian Council of Churches in an effort to establish a cease fire and a negotiated settlement to the six month old civil war.

Fighting in the West African country has come to a near standstill since both sides agreed to the talks last weekend, with government troops in firm control of Robertsfield International Airport outside the Liberian capital of Monrovia and the rebels still holding the Bridgestone-Firestone rubber plantation that adjoins the airport.

Diplomat have given the talks little chance of succeeding because both sides have refused to move from their original positions, with the rebels insisting on Doe's departure and threatening to invade Monrovia if he does not go and the government refusing to consider the demand.

"Samuel Doe is the object of this struggle," chief rebel negotiator Tom Woiwoyio told reporters. "If he goes Liberians can then get together."

road were armed with weapons ranging from Remington 03 bolt-action rifles, standard US issue during World War I, to brand-new towable twin barrel anti-aircraft guns of unidentified make.

Occasional gunfire crackled and banged from the tangled

tropical undergrowth along the edge of the adjoining Bridgestone-Firestone rubber plantation, which begins less than 500 yards (450 metres) from the end of the runway.

Most of the plantation, the largest in the world, has been in the hands of the rebels for the past week.

Journalists were advised that the soldiers, whose number Kortor would not disclose for security reasons, could not guarantee the safety of anyone crossing the bridge from the airport towards the palm trees of the plantation.

Washington brushes aside report

CIA role in Mandela arrest

WASHINGTON, June 13. (AP) The White House yesterday brushed aside a report linking the CIA to the 1962 arrest of South African anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela, saying there was "no value in reviewing a 30-year-old history."

"We just don't comment on these kinds of intelligence matters and we don't intend to," said presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater.

"Our attitude toward Mr Mandela is one of total support and we want to demonstrate that to him when he comes," Fitzwater said.

The African National Congress leader will visit the White House on June 25.

In a sometimes testy exchange with reporters, Fitzwater repeatedly refused to confirm or deny a report in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution earlier this week that the CIA had helped arrange Mandela's arrest on Aug 5, 1962.

Nor would he say whether the administration of President George Bush felt Mandela was owed an apology.

"We welcome Mr Mandela to this country. The president personally called him and invited him. We recognise the outstanding contributions that he has made to the fight against apartheid in his country and the contributions he has made to fight racism around the world," Fitzwater said.

"We want his presence here to highlight that fact. We want to fight apartheid as best we can. And we find no value in reviewing a 30-year-old history in this case."

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution said a senior CIA official claimed credit for Mandela's capture within hours of his arrest. The newspaper quoted an unidentified intelligence officer as saying that a tip from a paid informant of the CIA led to Mandela's arrest.

Fitzwater told reporters: "Don't beat me up for what the Kennedy administration did."

The late John F. Kennedy was president when Mandela was arrested.

Promises to whites made

SA extremists train

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa, June 13. (AP) President F.W. de Klerk on Tuesday promised white voters a referendum on any major constitutional changes, such as measures that would allow a black to become president.

De Klerk, speaking at a parliamentary debate in Cape Town, defended his political reforms under hostile questioning from the pro-apartheid Conservative Party.

Koos van der Merwe of the Conservative Party said De Klerk had no mandate from white voters to negotiate a new constitution with the African National Congress and other black anti-apartheid groups.

De Klerk said he believed most whites agreed with his reforms. He said that before any new constitution went into effect, he would take the proposal to white voters for approval in a referendum or regular election.

He did not say what he would do if whites rejected a new constitution.

The president said South Africans of all races should be eligible for high office under a new political system.

"If there's a South African citizen who will be prevented from becoming state president on the grounds of race alone, then we will destroy this country's future before we even enter it," De Klerk said.

The white-led government and the ANC, the country's most powerful black group, held their first direct talks last month.

The government says it is

ready to begin negotiations with the ANC and other opposition groups toward a new constitution. But the ANC has set several preconditions, including the release of some 3,000 activists convicted of politically motivated crimes and the return of an estimated 20,000 exiles.

Meanwhile, a South African ultra-right group said on Tuesday it had started para-military training to defend whites against the effects of apartheid reform.

"No one can stop us now. The Boere have a right to defend and protect themselves," Andrew Ford of the Boere Weerstandsbeweging (Farmers' Resistance Movement) told the South African Press Association news agency.

"The government and the ANC (African National Congress) are unacceptable to us."

"We will fight if we have to get back our country. The Boere republics belong to us farmers and we will not let them be given to communists," Ford said.

He was referring to the Transvaal and Orange Free State provinces, established in the 19th century as independent republics by farmer descendants of Dutch settlers. The territories are the site of South Africa's gold and diamond mines.

In The Hague, Netherlands, Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey said Tuesday that he expected a "lively discussion" at this month's European Economic Community (EEC) summit on moves to lift economic sanctions against South Africa.

Kohl to reconsider sanctions

BONN, June 13. (AP) Nelson Mandela met with top West German politicians yesterday to argue for continued international sanctions against South Africa, but came away with no clear promise from Helmut Kohl on what position his government would take.

Mandela told reporters after his meeting with the West German chancellor that Kohl had initially favoured a review of sanctions when the European Economic Community meets later this month in Dublin.

"But I think, without speaking for him, after listening to our argument he is now prepared to reconsider. That was my distinct impression," the deputy leader of the African National Congress said.

Mandela is on a tour of Europe and North America to argue against a lifting of economic sanctions against the white-led government in South Africa.

Some countries, notably Great Britain, have said South African President F.W. de Klerk should be rewarded for the steps he has taken toward ending the country's racial strife. Those measures have included freeing Mandela after nearly three decades in jail, legalising the black nationalist movement, and most recently, lifting the state of emergency in three of the four South African provinces.

But Mandela maintains it was only the persistence of the ANC and sanctions that prompted the current peace talks, and that apartheid has not been completely dismantled.

Gorbachev's proposal not acceptable: Kohl

United Germany must belong to Nato

BONN, June 13. (Agencies) Chancellor Helmut Kohl yesterday rejected a proposal by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev for resolving the dispute over a united Germany's military status.

Earlier in the day Gorbachev indicated he might accept a united Germany's associate membership in Nato if the alliance drops its cold war stance against the Soviet Union.

But Kohl told reporters in Bonn that Gorbachev's proposal was "not acceptable" and "we reject it."

Such a pact would apparently be aimed at trying to avert Soviet concerns about the potential military might of a united Germany, one reason for the Kremlin's opposition to Nato membership for a united Germany.

The United States, the two German governments and the Soviets have been conducting a series of high-level meetings and contacts to try to hammer out a solution to the military question.

Kohl defended West Germany's present membership status in Nato, arguing that Nato is more a "collection of people of the free world with a constitutional order and with human rights" than strictly a military alliance.

Meanwhile, in Brussels, the spokesman for Nato said that "among other problems, the ideas of associated membership of a united Germany in both alliances, or of dual membership, do not seem promising to pursue."

"As (Nato) foreign ministers stated in the communique of their Turnberry, (Scotland), meeting (last week), a united Germany must have the right, recognized in the Helsinki (conference) final act, to choose to be party to a treaty of alliance, without the establishment of constraints on its sovereignty," the spokesman said.

Britain cast doubt on Gorbachev's suggestion yesterday that a united Germany could become an "associate member" of both the Nato and the Warsaw Pact.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told Parliament: "I doubt very much whether one country can be a member of two different pacts."

Thatcher was answering questions on her four-day visit to the Soviet Union which ended on Sunday and included lengthy talks with Gorbachev on East-West relations.

She had told Gorbachev that a united Germany's membership of Nato was integral to its future, but she said later that the 16-nation Western alliance must take Soviet concerns into account.

Bush reiterated yesterday that a united Germany must belong to Nato without conditions, and not be an associate member as suggested by Gorbachev.

But Bush, at the outset of a meeting with Republican congressional leaders, said he was ready to listen and discuss "without rancour" any ideas the Soviets have for solving the dispute over the future of Germany.

Bush, fielding a question from reporters, indicated that the Gorbachev proposal was not new, but had come up during the summit two weeks ago.

"Our position is well known to

He said the idea "misjudges the sense and foundations" of the Western alliance.

Kohl has all along insisted that a united Germany must have full Nato membership. The Soviet Union rejects this idea.

Kohl also disclosed that he and US President George Bush last week discussed the possibility of a "sort of non-aggression pact" that would be signed under the auspices of the 35-nation Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.



Children sitting on the Berlin Wall get their souvenir out of the Wall in Berlin. (Reuters wirephoto)

line, which is that a unified Germany should be in Nato with no conditions," Bush said. "But the more talking we do, the more convinced I am that they will see that what we're proposing is more stabilising and is best for the Soviet Union as well as Western and Eastern Europe."

Elections this year for a united German Parliament looked increasingly likely today after the Social Democrats — the only main West German party so far not to back the idea — said they would be ready for them.

"Whenever the elections come, they will find us prepared," Social Democrat (SPD) chairman Hans-

Jochen Vogel told reporters. East Germany began the final demolition of the Berlin Wall today, knocking out concrete slabs all over the city to reopen streets blocked or sealed off since the cold war barrier was built in 1961.

Workers from both East and West Mbalists with hammers, cranes and refuse skips to restore links across the city, long divided but soon to be free of border restrictions.

West Germany has agreed to scrap border controls with France and the Benelux countries, probably late next year, the Bonn government said today.

A spokesman said the cabinet had

agreed West Germany will sign a treaty with France, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands on June 19 in the Luxembourg town of Schengen to end all their border checks.

Abortion has emerged as one of the most emotional unification issues facing the Germans, and people from both nations are debating which state's abortion law should prevail.

West Germany restricts abortions to three situations: medical necessity, rape or incest, and dire social or economic hardship. In East Germany, first trimester abortions are performed cost-free upon demand.

Bring back Berlin Wall — this time twice as high — say frustrated West Germans

WEST BERLIN, June 13. (Reuters) Overwhelmed by the pace of unification, West Germans are forgetting how much they used to hate the Berlin Wall and some even wish they could rebuild the cold war barrier — this time twice as high.

With East Germans competing for their jobs and social security benefits, crowding out their shops and swelling their streets with traffic, they are wondering if the collapse of communism in Eastern Europe was such a good thing after all.

"Man, I'm furious," one West German was recently overheard telling his

friends. "Before, the East Germans were safe behind their barrier. They didn't bother us. I never went over there, they never came over here. Why can't it be like that now?"

"I say we should build the wall back up on the West side, and make it twice as high."

Such sentiments are a far cry from the jubilation most West Germans felt when the wall opened after 28 years last November. At the time Berliners from East and West hugged and kissed each other, danced and wept together.

Eight months on, the atmosphere has gone sour. "There's real tension between East and West. We're treating each other with suspicion and malice. I don't enjoy crossing the border any more," West Berlin artist Susanne Mahlmeister said.

Nowhere is the resentment more keenly felt than in West Berlin, surrounded on all sides by East Germany and rapidly turning into a glorified shopping mall for Poles, Romanians, Czechoslovaks and Bulgarians who are swamping the city.

Coachloads of East Europeans queue round the block to snap up food, radio-cassette players and any other consumer goods they are unlikely to

find easily at home.

The Poles in particular have made an art of clearing the shelves of discount stores in packs of 30 or 40, carrying their wares in a colourful assortment of plastic and leather bags.

Kantstrasse, a city centre avenue packed with cheap shops, has been dubbed "Warsaw boulevard" by resentful locals who can barely move for people and traffic, let alone reach the stores.

"People are angry and make no secret of it. There's been no serious violence yet but it's only a matter of time," a bartender said.

Some shopkeepers have capitalised on the increased custom, putting signs out advertising "piwo zimne" (Polish for cool beer). But they have also become noticeably short-tempered.

"Intellectually, I am in favour of a cosmopolitan city. But I have to admit I feel aggression too. It's bound to happen when the streets are so full," the bartender added.

Because of the rapid changes, West Berlin also stands to lose special privileges it enjoyed during the cold war.

For four decades the Bonn government helped West Berlin thrive by han-

dling out large subsidies on day-to-day goods, setting lower tax rates and exempting residents of the enclave city from military service.

Now a huge influx of tourists and business people, coupled with speculation that Berlin might become the capital of a United Germany, has sent prices soaring.

"I don't know anyone in West Berlin who doesn't wish, at least secretly, that the wall would come back. They're all afraid of losing their special status," said Cheryl Horrigan, a US music promoter based here.

Gorbachev proposes a loose federation

Agrees to restore some supplies to Lithuania

MOSCOW, June 13, (AP): Faced with a splintering empire, President Mikhail Gorbachev has proposed restructuring the Soviet Union into a loose federation of sovereign states, officials said.

Gorbachev made the proposal yesterday, the same day that the Parliament of the huge Russian republic approved a resolution declaring that its laws would take priority over national ones.

After refusing for weeks to negotiate with the breakaway Baltic republics unless they agreed to abide by the Soviet constitution, Gorbachev met yesterday with the presidents of Latvia, Lithuania and

Estonia.

Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis hinted that the Kremlin might soon end the embargo against his republic.

Lithuania's prime minister said today that the Soviet government has agreed to restore some fuel and raw material supplies to the Baltic republic, easing an embargo imposed two months ago, Tass reported.

Prime Minister Kazimiera Prunskiene made the comment after meeting with Kremlin officials, the official Soviet news agency reported.

"There are no doubts about the lifting of the economic blockade. This was stated quite explicitly," Tass quoted Prunskiene as saying after meeting with Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov.

Mrs Prunskiene said she had reached an agreement with Ryzhkov on a partial increase of the supply of natural gas and raw materials to some enterprises in the republic, Tass said.

She also said the Soviet government intends to review the question of renewing the supply of fuel for Lithuanian agriculture.

Mrs Prunskiene was quoted by Tass as saying her republic would carefully discuss the question of freeing the declaration of independence for the duration of negotiations with the Soviet government.

Tass quoted Ryzhkov as describing today's encounter as "the beginning of a concrete dialogue on the question of future negotiations."

Ryzhkov, who attended the session, said earlier today it had made definite progress on the impasse over the Baltic states' independence they lost when they were forcibly annexed by the Soviet Union in 1940.

Gorbachev stopped shipments of all oil, most natural gas and other raw materials to Lithuania on April 18 to pressure the republic into rescinding pro-independence laws.

President George Bush said today that he hopes Gorbachev's meeting with the Baltic presidents will be the "first step" toward ending the Soviet crisis with the secessionist republics.

"I think it was good news. I don't want to overstate it. But I was very pleased to see this occur in the wake of what I think was a successful summit meeting," Bush said at a news conference.

He opened the session by applauding Gorbachev's meeting yesterday with the presidents of Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia.

"I hope that what we saw yesterday is a first step in a dialogue that will lead to the self-determination that we strongly support," Bush said.

The President also had renewed his call for Moscow to lift its economic boycott against Lithuania.

Latvian President Anatoly Gorbunov said Gorbachev had made a concrete offer to enter negotiations.

"This is an absolute recognition of the legality of our declaration" that Latvia has begun a transition to independence, Gorbunov claimed. "This is a new thing."

Gorbachev said he had summoned the council to begin work on "realizing the key idea of deeply re-forming our federation."

Gorbachev proposed that the country's republics agree on a new, looser union of "sovereign states," officials said after the meeting.

The Soviet legislature yesterday passed the country's first law guaranteeing freedom of the press and creating broad rights for journalists and publishers.

"The press and other mass media are free," the law begins bluntly, and "censorship of the mass media is forbidden."

Search and rescue groups in the troubled Central Asian Republic of Kirghizia have revised to 148 the death toll from this month's ethnic violence, Tass reported today.



Armed police watch the angry crowd that gathered in front of the television station in Bucharest. (Reuters wirephoto)



Police arrest a demonstrator after breaking up a anti-government protest in Bucharest. (Reuters wirephoto)

TV station stormed

Protest march in Bucharest

BUCHAREST, June 13, (AP): Soldiers shot at anti-government protesters outside secret police headquarters tonight after demonstrators stormed the state-run TV station and burned the headquarters of the regular police, witnesses said.

One witness reported seeing at least two bodies outside the old headquarters of Securitate, ousted communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu's hated secret police.

The most serious violence in the Romanian capital since December's revolution that toppled Ceausescu was sparked by a pre-dawn police swoop, which ended a 53-day anti-communist protest in University Square.

Demonstrators clashed with police in the afternoon in University Square, then fanned out to police headquarters, Securitate headquarters, the TV station and Victory Square, headquarters of the ruling National Salvation Front.

Scottish freelance photographer Jeremy Sutton-Hibbert said he saw soldiers shooting from inside the Securitate building in downtown Bucharest and the body of a man in his 40s who had been shot in the head.

He said other photographers had seen at least one more body near the building, which was ringed by half a dozen armored personnel carriers.

State-run television, scene of fierce fighting during December's revolution, was stormed by the protesters who occupied one of the main studios. An announcer said they might not be able to transmit any longer. Minutes later, the picture was cut and shortly afterwards the sound was also cut.

Demonstrators carrying gasoline cans got into police headquarters this evening and set fire to cars and trucks nearby. Some were armed with clubs.

About 1,500 people stood outside, watching one wing of the



A demonstrator was escorted by a police officer after his arrest in Bucharest. (Reuters wirephoto)

building burn. Some civilians working in the headquarters leaped out the windows, looking panicked and coughing.

Every few minutes, there were minor explosions, apparently from gasoline in the vehicles set ablaze.

People who thronged the streets boomed as helicopters flew overhead surveying the situation.

Some protesters then marched toward Victory Square, headquarters of the ruling National Salvation Front, largely composed of reformed communists.

President-elect Ion Iliescu issued a communique during the afternoon calling on all "aware and responsible people" to surround government buildings and state television headquarters to prevent any attempts of force by "extremist groups" and to save Romania's democracy "earned with so much difficulty."

During earlier violence, one policeman was reported injured

and several demonstrators could be seen bleeding after police clubbed them. The government said 263 people were detained.

Ten hours after the pre-dawn police clearing operation in the square, a second clash erupted in the square. Helmeted police charged and clubbed about 1,000 demonstrators, and the protesters set fire to about 10 vehicles used by police, witnesses said.

Enraged protesters threw stones at policemen surrounding the square, which the anti-communist demonstrators had declared "a neo-communist free zone." The police threw stones back.

By late afternoon, the police had disappeared and about 3,000 protesters were again blocking the square, listening to speeches denouncing the violent police crackdown. Some demonstrators then went to police headquarters.

Liberal Party leader Radu Campeanu, a newly elected senator and key opposition figure, condemned the violence as "contrary to any norm of democracy." He urged the government to halt any further repressive action against the demonstrators and demanded the immediate release of those arrested.

The police action started just before 4 am (0100 GMT) with some 400 policemen sealing off the square with trucks and buses.

Officers then routed the sleeping protesters, dismantling their tent camp on the side of the square.

Brindusa Muresan, who had been on a hunger strike since May 9, told the Associated Press that some of her colleagues were clubbed by police in the lobby of the nearby intercontinental hotel. They were then taken to a police station where they were fingerprinted and photographed. Later, they were sent to the hospital for tests.



A young Bulgarian masked with an American flag flashes the victory sign as he and thousands of other UDF supporters blocked the streets of Sofia June 13.



Police officers guard the building of the Bulgarian Television against UDF protesters (Reuters wirephoto)

Bulgarian youths stage protests

Public impatience at delays in election results

SOPIA, June 13, (Reuters): Protests by Bulgarian students and anarchist groups paralysed central Sofia today, reflecting public impatience at delays in announcing official election result details.

Hundreds of rowdy youths, many waving anarchist flags or banners of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (UDF), blocked the capital's busiest traffic intersection with makeshift barricades and overturned waste-bins and planks.

The blockades caused chaos in Sofia side-streets and many Bulgarians had to walk to work. Others simply stayed at home. Police appealed for calm, but did not try to dismantle the barricades.

Bulgaria's dissident-led opposition has been stunned by preliminary results of the country's first free elections in four decades which make the Socialist Party (BSP) the first former Communist Party in Eastern Europe to win a free and democratic election.

But Western diplomats in Sofia said they felt the youths who blocked the streets of Sofia yesterday and today were not typical of UDF supporters who had attended well-controlled UDF demonstrations in the past, and warned of rising tension.

"The feeling is that the situation is such that something could spark things off," one Western envoy said. "It wouldn't take much."

A statement from UDF headquarters today appealed to its supporters not to disrupt traffic.

"It is unacceptable to block traffic junctions and to organise noisy protests with cars at night," it said. "This turns public opinion against the UDF."

University students holding a sit-in to demand an investigation into alleged voting malpractices also dissociated themselves from the street protests outside their faculty building. Bulgarian radio reported sit-ins and

similar other protests by young people in at least 12 other towns.

According to a batch of official election results released today, the BSP has won 75 out of 200 constituency seats in the new 400-member assembly. The UDF gained only 32.

A second vote will be held in 81 constituencies on Sunday as a run-off between candidates who failed to get a clear majority.

Results of voting for another 200 regional seats were not expected until late this evening, but unofficial results issued by the West German opinion survey Infias have given the BSP an 11 per cent lead over the UDF.

Wednesday's UDF statement reiterated complaints that there had been foul play in some electoral districts, despite reports by teams of foreign observers that voting was remarkably fair.

But it added that even with fewer seats than the Socialists, the UDF considered the results a victory.

Nuclear safety crisis

Series of setbacks in US

WASHINGTON, June 13, (Reuters): The US nuclear weapons programme, hounded by safety questions, is facing its biggest crisis since the atomic age was born with the 1945 bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Experts say Defence Secretary Dick Cheney's order last week to remove short-range nuclear attack missiles from bombers in 10 states for a safety study was another in a series of setbacks that could reverse quiet public support for a shadowy strategic arsenal.

The top-secret US stockpile has grown to thousands of warheads world-wide on different types of missiles and bombs since president Harry Truman ordered the two Japanese cities destroyed with primitive, 4,000-kg (9,000-pound) atom bombs.

"People are scared to death of nuclear weapons," said Jim Blackwell of the Centre for Strategic and International Studies. "The laboratories need to explain these stability questions quickly, because public support is crucial."

Cheney's order on Friday followed warnings by the heads of three major US weapons laboratories that extreme stress, such as fire or crash, on the 125-kg (275-pound) "Sram-A" attack missile warhead might cause a non-nuclear explosion and release plutonium and other lethal radioactive substances.

Since the scientists testified before Congress, the Energy Department and the Defence Department have said several studies are under way covering warheads on the Sram-A, the new Trident-2 submarine-launched ballistic missile and other weapons.

"It suggests to me that there is a major safety problem here. It's certainly prudent to err on the side of safety and take off the Srams until the study is over," said Tom Longstreth of the Federation of American Scientists.

The studies are due this summer and Cheney stressed that there was no public safety hazard. But Longstreth and Natalie Golding of the Defence Budget Project said federal scientists may have to strip the "top secret" label from some nuclear programmes to publicly back Cheney.

The House Armed Services Committee has begun its own investigation of the 4.5-metre (14-foot-long) Sram-A and other nuclear weapons, and one senior congressional official challenged Cheney's assurance that the



Revive nuclear policy: A fundamental NATO doctrine — first use of nuclear weapons in response to a Soviet threat — will be reviewed as the Western alliance redefines its role, US Secretary of State James Baker said on Tuesday.

Baker, in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, did not say if the Bush administration would support replacement of current policy with a "no first use" doctrine.

"It is premature I think for me to comment on your specific question regarding no first use," he told the panel. (Reuters)

Fresh short-range nuclear cuts: The Soviet Union on Wednesday announced it would unilaterally scrap 60 short-range nuclear missile launchers in Eastern Europe this year to encourage nuclear arms reduction talks with the West.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov said Moscow would also eliminate more than 50 pieces of nuclear artillery and 1,500 nuclear charges in Central Europe.

He defined Central Europe as East Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary. (Reuters)

Moscow saves gold: The Soviet Union says it is saving tonnes of gold and silver, worth tens of millions of dollars, as it reaps the "peace dividend" from arms reductions.

The Defence Ministry was quoted on Tuesday as saying it expected to recover three tonnes of gold, 564 tonnes of silver and 300 kg of platinum this year from aircraft being destroyed under Moscow's unilateral arms cuts.

The Soviet defence industry used the precious metals to make sensitive parts in military aircraft because of their durability, it said. Each MIG-23 fighter contained 500 grammes of gold, the ministry was quoted as saying by the weekly newspaper Pravda.

Talks resume after break for summit: US-Soviet arms control talks resumed on Tuesday to tackle issues left unresolved following the recent Washington summit "framework" accord on a treaty curbing long-range nuclear arms to be completed by the end of the year.

Chief delegates Richard Butt of the United States and Yuri Nazarkin met at the Soviet mission to prepare plenary sessions of the talks which started five years ago.

The three major outstanding issues involve limitations on the Soviet backfire bomber and on modernisation of Soviet missiles as well as procedures to prevent circumvention of the treaty.

Sram-A was safe. "He said the nuclear artillery shells were safe, too, but not until two years after the problem was fixed," said the official, who asked not to be identified.

Cheney told a news conference

in Brussels last month that some of the nearly 2,000 US army nuclear artillery shells stationed in West Germany had not met strict safety specifications but that the problem was fixed in 1988.

Murder charge dropped

I'm not guilty: Ceausescu's brother

BUCHAREST, June 13, (Reuters): Military prosecutors dropped a murder charge against the younger brother of executed Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu today, but asked a court to convict him on other charges carrying up to 10 years in jail.

Nicolae Andruța Ceausescu denied all charges against him during final summing-up before a verdict due on June 21.

"I am the traitor's brother but I am not guilty of the charges brought against me," Ceausescu, 66, told a three-judge military tribunal which began hearing the case against him two months ago.

Ceausescu faces charges of abetting, genocide and attempted aggravated murder stemming from fighting between demonstrators and security forces in Bucharest during the revolution which overthrew his brother last December.

He headed the Bucharest training school of his brother's Securitate secret police but played no prominent role in the government.

He was accused of killing several demonstrators — the charge dropped for lack of evidence — and ordering his men to shoot at crowds protesting against his brother.



Nicolae Andruța Ceausescu has his last word before sentence, Bucharest, June 13. (Reuters wirephoto)

Massive anti-Red rally in Belgrade

BELGRADE, June 13, (Reuters): About 30,000 anti-communist demonstrators blocked a central Belgrade avenue and demanded that free elections be held in Yugoslavia's biggest republic Serbia by the end of the year.

Chanting "down with communism" and "elections now" they marched down Terazije Avenue to the Serbian Parliament to give authorities a petition demanding the elections.

Free elections were held in the republics of Slovenia and Croatia in April and May but Serbia has stalled on allowing democratic reforms, saying elections could not be held until next year.

The protest was organised by Serbia's five main opposition groups, including the powerful Serbian Renewal Movement (SRM), a party with a strong nationalist bent.

Police refused to give a figure for the crowd but journalists and photographers at the scene put it at about 30,000.

"There will be free elections by the end of the year," SRM leader Vuk Draskovic told the cheering throng, which had first massed on Belgrade's central republic square. "I guarantee it."

Political analysts consider the long-haired and bearded Draskovic, a novelist and former journalist, to be the most serious threat to Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

The show of strength by anti-communist protesters could be a major blow to Milosevic's authority, hitherto almost absolute.

Outside the Parliament, the demonstrators chanted "Slobodan, you are a traitor" and "communists come out."

"Communists, are you sorry that the end is at hand? We want elections, not conflicts,"

Mix-up Page two nightmare

BUCHAREST, June 13, (Reuters): Staff at the fiercely independent Bucharest daily Romania Libera couldn't believe their eyes when they read Page two of Tuesday's paper.

Instead of the page they had made up a few hours earlier, they saw Page two of the pro-government daily Adevarul.

The two newspapers share the same state-owned printing shop, and the mistake happened when a worker took the wrong tray of lead type to the Romania Libera press.

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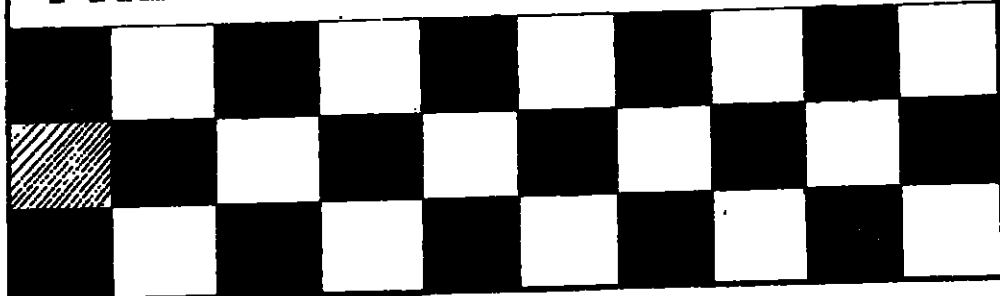
HOW TO PLAY

1. Solve the clue underneath the entry card (below) and enter the number that you think is the answer in the shaded square on the left-hand side of the card. This square must be completed.
2. Now select a further 14 numbers between 1 and 90 inclusive and enter these in the remaining open squares. You should now have 15 DIFFERENT numbers on your card. Please write them clearly, in ballpoint or ink.
3. Fill in your name and address in the

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4. Make an exact copy of your 15 numbers on the copy card provided underneath, and keep it so that you can check off your numbers as they appear in the ARAB TIMES every day.
5. Register your Free Bingo entry by sending it to the ARAB TIMES. Read details below carefully.
6. Watch out for YOUR numbers each morning in the ARAB TIMES.

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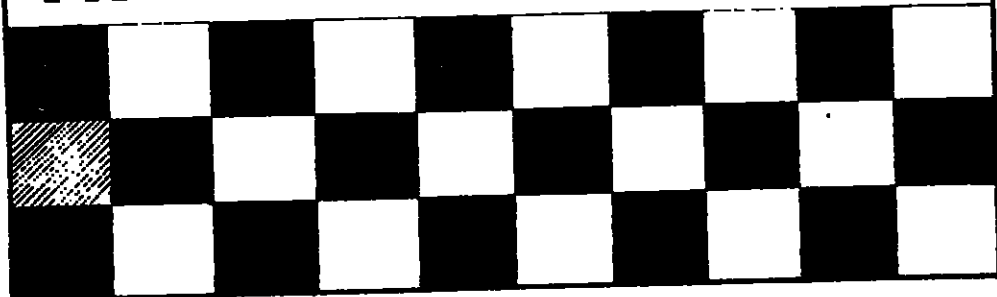
Kuwait National Council seats

NAME (Mr./Mrs./Miss)

ADDRESS

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Please make a note of the last number you checked off, i.e. the one that completes your claim. Claimants will be asked to give this number which will decide the allocation of prizes.

When you have a claim, phone: 4813566/272 or 287 between 12 noon and 1 pm. Claims after 1 pm WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. You or anyone telephoning for you must have your copy card when the claim is made.

Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE AND INITIAL OF YOUR SURNAME ON THE LEFT HAND TOP CORNER IN FRONT.

This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified.

When you have completed your entry

card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries, by post, addressed to:

Bingo,
 Arab Times,
 P.O. Box 2270,
 13023 Safat Kuwait.

A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh.

Retraining for communications personnel

Bid to provide better service

ALL personnel at the Ministry of Communications will have to undergo retraining courses before the end of 1995, director of human resources and development at the ministry said.

Mohammed Al Refai, the director speaking to a local daily attributed the need for these fresh courses to the lack of well-thought out and low level of training courses imparted to various categories of employees.

Replying to a query relating to the

administrative developments at the ministry Refai said that to speak about developments achieved in the administrative sector at the ministry, one should make a comparison between some of the levels which existed five years ago with those that exist as at present.

Modernisation

However, he reiterated that planning concepts are continually being developed and presently envisage long and short-

term plans.

On the issue of level of services at the ministry, the official said that modernisation of Salmiya and Hawalli centres has proved to be a fruitful exercise to the ministry and the public and commented that the experiment will be extended to all other centres.

He stated that training programmes held inside the ministry did not give good results due to lack of training, follow up,

and lack of planning for required manpower and future manpower requirements. He pointed out that so far the ministry has retrained a total of 94 technicians, 18 new graduates and 22 ministry employees. On the other hand, the ministry will soon start training operators at the information service and overseas calls departments.

Regarding the issue of transferring services to the private sector, Refai said that such a step aims at providing better services for the public.

Kuwaitisation slow but sure, says CSC chief

THE undersecretary of the Civil Service Commission Abdul Aziz Abdullah Al Zabin has said that the role of the CSC is confined to nomination of job applicants to different government employers, pointing out that the final decision whether to appoint the nominated person or not is exclusively up to the concerned government agency.

Speaking to a local daily he stressed that personal influence played no part whatsoever in manipulating the nomination of new graduates to government employers. Only qualified graduates will be nominated and their advancement and excellent performance at work will be the main judge of their skills, the official said.

He said that the Kuwaitisation of the public sector is being gradually and carefully implemented, adding that this applies to areas where Kuwaitis are available to take up the vacant positions.

He said that graduates from the Sharia College have ample chance of appointment at the Ministry of Awkaf and Islamic Affairs, Public Authority for Minors Affairs, Zakat House and other religious institutions.

He added that the CSC's main function was the nomination and distribution of graduates to fill available vacancies in different government agencies based on the required specialisations and qualifications.

He said that the CSC would also prepare a list of the superfluous specialisations among Kuwaitis, including graduates from the Sharia College, and attempt to accommodate them with jobs elsewhere.

He said that the existing work-force combination in the country has been considerably changing and that Kuwaitis are beginning to form greater percentage in the public sector.

He pointed out that the redressing of the balance of the work-force combination will not be exclusively confined to the public sector but will also be carried out in the private sector, adding that the process of implementation is also slow and careful.

He said that the final approval on the nominated applicant will be up to the employer and the CSC's role is just to nominate those deemed fit for occupying the vacancies advertised by the different government agencies.

Call to continue embargo

(Continued from Page 1)

The Kuwaiti diplomat spoke before the inter-governmental group to monitor the supply and shipping of oil and petroleum products to South Africa, a group founded in 1986 of which she is vice-chairman.

Last week the group adopted its draft interim report which covers most of the possible deliveries of petroleum products and that portion of possible deliveries of crude oil made on combination carriers.

By presenting the report, the group aims at strengthening the embargo and closing its loopholes to bring more pressure on the Pretoria regime to scrap the system of apartheid.

In her remarks, Al Mulla said the work of the group is an indication of the existence of a political will with the support of the General Assembly.

Al Mulla said Kuwait was convinced that this will prevail and that the members of the group would pursue their collaboration toward eradication of apartheid.



Fahd Jaffer with a Kuna reporter

Election management

Study on computer aided system: Jaffer

THE Director General of the Interior Ministry Information Centre Fahd Jaffer revealed that the centre is preparing a study on a new computer aided election management system project.

He told Kuwait News Agency (Kuna) that the proposed system is drawn from a similar system currently being implemented in the USA where the nominees names are shown on a computer panel with special voter-terminal to enter the vote for the selected nominee.

He pointed out that the idea of this system was developed following a tour which took him along with senior centre officials to a number of countries, including Belgium, Sweden, Canada and America, adding that this system may be used for future elections.

He said that after entering the vote for the selected nominees into the system, the computer will automatically sort out the votes which can later be retrieved in full detail.

He said that the operation of this system will enable the interlinking of all different governorates in one country through a related high-speed computer network to make balloting easier.

One of the latest achievements made by the centre,

he said that an integrated information system had been recently developed to process all information needed about hajjis, land caravans, air flights and all different issues of substantial importance to facilitating hajj caravans traffic.

He added that another system has been developed to help new students register into the police academy, whereby the personal data of each student is entered into the computer and regularly updated and easily retrieved as needed.

He pointed out that in response to directives by senior ministry officials, special training courses are being developed for non-commissioned officers in computer system operation.

He added that a total of 193 cadets from the police academy has been trained and qualified to operate computer system. Shortly they will be circulated to the different ministry departments where computers have been introduced.

He said that his visit to Canada enabled him and his companions to have a close look on highly developed computer systems for processing colour photos, which can be very conveniently used in fingerprinting, mapping and other important functions and facilities.

GCC states to set up aluminium specifications

THE co-ordinative meeting among the Arab Gulf Aluminium plants which was sponsored recently by Gulf Organisation for Industrial Consultations (GOIC) at its premises in Doha, Qatar has confirmed the acceleration of setting up the Arab Gulf unified specifications of house utensils made of aluminium and the related materials in order to apply such specifications on imported and local utensils output.

The meeting has called for the alleviating of commercial procedures among the Arab Gulf countries to ensure the flow of household aluminium utensils among the member states in order to enable the Arab Gulf industries to compete the foreign one.

Meanwhile, the meeting has called for benefitting from the productive energy of Iraq-based ore plant for aluminium industries in addition to the forming of a follow-up committee from Qatar-based Effi Aluminium Plant, Bahrain based Jaremcu Aluminium plant and Saudi Arabia Plant for the manufacturing of aluminium discs.

The meeting has confirmed the importance of co-operation among the producers towards the developing of the aluminium industries in the region.

Effective from June 17

PIA reverts fare

By Fathima Ahmed Arab Times staff

PAKISTAN INTERNATIONAL AIRLINE (PIA), which had dropped fares on May 14, has reverted to the original market price levels, reliable sources told the Arab Times.

Before May 14, market prices were KD 141 to Karachi and KD 185 on other sectors in Pakistan. These prices will be effective from June 17. Last month, prices had fallen to KD 120 (Karachi) and KD 140 (other sectors) after Lufthansa decreased the fares on the Kuwait-Pakistan sector. PIA and British Airways followed suit.

Sources said: "Lufthansa had seen the error of decreasing fares and has reverted to the market fare."

PIA, market sources say, bowed to pressure. A PIA official denied the report but said they "always co-operate" with "national carriers" wherever they operate from.

A PIA circular issued to travel agents on June 6 asks them to dispense with the practice of discounted tickets sold since May 14. The PIA source said the airline reverted to previous market rates because the present ticket prices "are too low."

Fares on the Pakistan sector dipped in May after Lufthansa cut prices by KD 21 to Karachi and KD 45 to other sectors in Pakistan. British Airways and PIA followed suit.

The air fare war is not new in the Kuwait market. Price fluctuations are commonplace, especially in summer when most airlines plan to cash in on the summer rush and hike fares at their whim under the pretext of following IATA level fares. If IATA fares are so important, why were airlines selling discounted tickets in previous years and why the sudden urge to follow IATA levels? None of the airline officials answer that question.

Air-India recently increased fares from KD176 to KD186. An Al executive categorically stated it was "not a fare hike," but had apparently altered the market rate (prevailing fares). Al finally wants to implement the full KD197 IATA level fares.

Market prices, which were quite reasonable over the last few years, shot up in recent months in keeping with the national carrier KAC's yield improvement programme. The market clean-up operation, mainly aimed at discouraging discounted air tickets, is hurting passengers, who are being forced to pay higher fares under the pretext of IATA fares.

A PIA official concurs and said they are not "hiking fares" but are going back to the previous market fare.

All airlines operating direct flights from Kuwait are gradually moving toward implementing IATA fare levels. IATA fare to Karachi is KD174.200 and comes to 72 fils per mile. From June 17, market fares would be KD141 costing 58 fils per mile.

Ministry rejects 'strike threats'

(Continued from Page 1)

putes which are direct negotiations, then mediation by the ministry and third arbitration at the court whose ruling is binding for the two parties.

Hussein emphasised that the unions had not followed these channels and procedures which did not even ask for the interference by the ministry.

He also said that the ministry, though was not requested to do so, has called for a meeting between the administrations of workers unions and the minister of social affairs and labour on June 11, in which they were reminded by the minister of the article 88 and the necessity of following the three procedural steps.

He added that the minister has affirmed to them that the ministry is fully prepared to participate in the negotiations and did in previous occasions and stressed that these negotiations should not be carried out under the threat of strike because such a threat is directed in the first place to the state, which naturally rejects such method and practices.

Hussein said the representatives of the unions have expressed preliminary understanding for the explanation made by the minister and the proposed made to deal with the dispute and how to solve it.

Hussein emphasised that the ministry has sent a message to the union head reminding him of article 88 and holding him responsible for all consequences of carrying out the strike and the legal results of such a step.

Approval of death sentence awaited

THE Court of Appeals is awaiting HH the Amir's final approval of death sentence issued against a man charged with premeditated murder of a woman aged her son (rape and arson).

The Court of Cassation had earlier sentenced the defendant to life imprisonment but the Public Prosecution severely objected to the ruling and the case was re-opened before the court of cassation which revised the sentence to death.

The court heard that the man had carefully planned his crime as he wanted to sexually assault the victim whom he knew would not rush everything up, so he intended to kill her.

On the day of the incident he went to the school where he worked as a teacher to prove his presence then he left for the house of the victim. She let him in on the grounds of the fact that he was the husband of her niece. The victim left the accused in the hall and went to change her clothes in her bedroom.

He took advantage of her absence and picked up his crime tools from her kitchen and surprised her in the bedroom with heavy blows on the head using a steel wrench and stabbed her in different places. When her strength started waning he possessed her sexually before she died.

After completing the crime, he had to kill her son, the only eye witness to the crime and then set fire to the house before he left.

Amiri diwan documentation centre preserving Kuwaiti history

THE Documentation Centre at the Amiri diwan scientifically preserves the political, cultural, geographic and social history of Kuwait and the Arabian Gulf Area. This facility assists in classifying documents and publications which later will be used as references by many researchers and students.

Baha Ibrahim, the official-in-charge at the centre said that the

centre closes a large gap which researchers suffered from due to the lack of historical documents on the area. He disclosed that scientists used to travel many miles to places like Turkey and Britain in quest of information.

In keeping with the directives of HH the Amir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, the Document Centre at the Amiri diwan was

established in 1983 and has developed into a complex and sophisticated library for books, references, documents and publications on the Arab Gulf area. It contains over 70,000 documents which have been presented by a number of citizens and senior dealers.

Ibrahim said that the first attempt at procuring documents on the history of Kuwait began at

the documentation centre of the Ministry of Marines in Leningrad during which over 90 original documents on Kuwait history were obtained.

The centre plans to hold discussions on the areas history at which Kuwaiti and Arab Gulf historians will talk about past historical events and these will be recorded on tapes.

He called upon citizens to come forward with any historical documents that might be in their possession, including any old photographs of Arabian history which will be preserved for posterity.

All material at the centre is secured by transferring it onto microfilm which is the ultimate in the conservation of documents.

Progress made in coverage of Arab issues

Objectivity still lacking: Barges

VIENNA, June 13, (Kuna): Chairman of the Federation of Arab News Agencies (Fana) Barges Hmoud Al Barges and head of the European News Agencies Alliance Wolfgang Vislotzky yesterday agreed that European agencies have made remarkable progress in recent years toward objectivity in coverage of Arab issues.

Barges and Vislotzky also agreed that some Western news agencies are still biased toward Arab issues, topped by the Palestinian cause.

In a meeting held here with Fana's chief, Vislotzky, who is also board chairman and director-general of the Austrian News Agency, lauded the role played by the Kuwaiti News Agency in boosting dialogue between Arab and European news agencies.

Barges who was also chairman of Kuna resigned his post recently.

Expressing understanding of Arab stances and the tension in the Middle East, Vislotzky agreed with Barges that the formation of the new Israeli government poses a great risk to the security of the region and the world.

Barges warned that any Israeli offensive against any Arab state may lead to the eruption of a new war in the Middle East.

While reiterating the Arabs' readiness for peace, Barges affirmed that the Arab people will not bow down to Israel's repression and violence.

Fana's chairman also affirmed that Kuwait has adopted in all international forums a policy of peace and supported humanitarian causes, particularly the

Palestinian cause.

During the meeting, he urged heads of European news agencies for more objectivity in covering the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories and asked them to unmask Israeli brutalities against defenceless Arab civilians.

In the same line, Barges also called on European news agencies to outline the risks resulting from resettlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories, affirming that continuation of this mass exodus will lead the area to the brink of a 'catastrophe'.

Barges also called on European agencies to stop the propaganda campaign against Iraq and Libya, warning that such a campaign aims at setting the stage for possible Israeli attacks against these two countries

and other countries in the area.

He indicated that the security of the European continent will remain linked to the security of the Arab region.

Barges wondered why European news agencies raised a hue and cry over Iraq's right to make technological progress aimed at improving its self-defence capabilities, while Israel has a nuclear arsenal capable of destroying the whole region.

He renewed Fana's 'sincere' desire to strengthen dialogue with European news agencies toward more objectivity in covering developments in the two areas.

Barges and Vislotzky agreed to postpone the next meeting of the executive committee of the Euro-Arab dialogue on the level of agencies to October of this year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Senegalese envoy

KUWAIT, June 13, (Kuna): The personal envoy of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf arrived here yesterday on a two-day visit.

The envoy, Minister of Foreign Affairs Omar Cy, told Kuna that he carries a message to HH the Amir from President Diouf.

HH the Amir conferred with the Senegalese envoy today.

Cy also met with HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah.

The Senegalese official said he will discuss ways of bolstering bilateral relations, which he described as "strong and excellent."

He also expressed his country's appreciation to Kuwait's contributions to development project in Senegal and the 6th Islamic summit, to be hosted by Senegal next year.

Cy, who is accompanied by a high-level delegation, was greeted by State Minister for Foreign Affairs Saoud Mohammed Al Ossaimi and Senior Foreign Ministry officials.

Soviet envoy
KUWAIT, June 13, (Kuna): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Jaber received here yesterday Soviet Ambassador to Kuwait, Ernest Zverev.

It was learnt that the Soviet ambassador has conveyed to HH the Amir the results of the meeting, a message from the recent Washington summit between Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and US President George Bush, particularly in respect with Middle East issues and Soviet Jewish emigration to occupied Palestine.

Sheikh Sabah reiterated Kuwait's stand toward the dangers of the Soviet Jews emigration on the Palestinian people.

Sheikh Sabah also blessed rapprochement between the two superpowers hoping that it will reflect on boosting international security and peace and eliminating all destructive weapons.

Sheikh Sabah also received Major-General Mohammad Al Bader and Assistant Rector of Kuwait University for Community and Information Affairs Dr Rasha Al Sabah on the occasion of her return from Tokyo.

Mosque in Sudan

KHARTOUM, June 13, (Kuna): The Ambassador of Kuwait to Sudan Dr Abdullah Al Serai is constructing a mosque at his own cost at the complex of the Gezira University some 190 kilometres (119 miles) south of here.

The ceremony of laying down the foundation stone of the mosque was attended yesterday by the governor of the central region and member of the ruling military council Col Sulaiman Mohammed Sulaiman and a host of dignitaries of the central region and the Gezira University.

Speaking at the ceremony, Dr Serai, who is dean of the Arab diplomatic corps, expressed his "unquestionable readiness to cooperate for the prevalence of science."

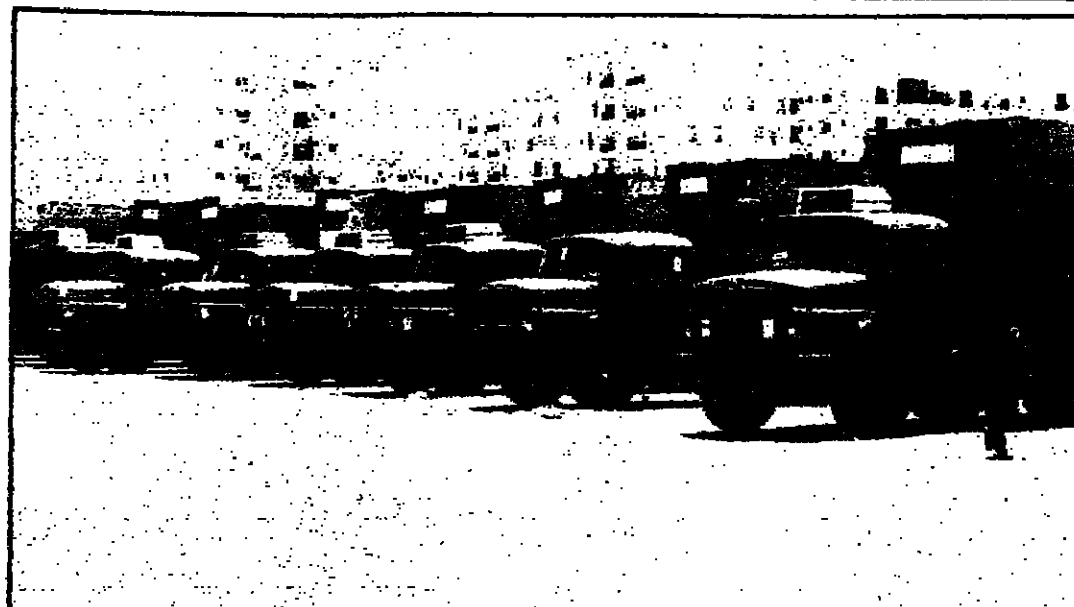
Colonel Sulaiman, speaking on the occasion, hailed what he described as "the great role which Kuwait continued to play in the person of ambassador Al Serai which reflects true feelings towards this country."

China visit

MANAMA, June 13, (Kuna): Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa will pay an official visit to China during the first week of July, a press report here said.

Bahraini Al Ayam daily said that Sheikh Mohammed, whose visit comes at the invitation of his Chinese counterpart Qian Qichen, will sign an agreement of economic trade and technical co-operation.

The Bahraini cabinet last Sunday discussed a draft version of the agreement and authorised the foreign minister to sign it.



Aid to Lebanon

A convoy of 28 trucks, loaded with foodstuffs and generators, left here Tuesday for Lebanon, to deliver relief aid to people suffering in that war-torn country.

The convoy, decided by the Council of Ministers under instructions of HH the Amir, is the fourth where previous three batches had been delivered to the Lebanese authorities last May.

The diwan of HH the Crown Prince and Premier has been supervising preparation and dispatch of the relief aid to the authorities in Lebanon.

Food security strategy

Arabs urged to reduce dependence on imports

WITHIN the framework of the symposium held by the Kuwait National Committee on the role of information media in promoting the implementation of a food security strategy, the chairman of the committee Amir Ma'rif, head of the Foreign Relations Department at the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources said that the agricultural development is but a practical partial translation of overall development in various walks of life, such as economic, social, political and cultural development.

He told a local daily that the major impediments to agricultural developments include the failure to accord agricultural development its deserved attention in the past. Additionally the presence of colonising forces and associated problems which lingered on even till after the post-oil discovery era constitutes a major reason for the delay in launching development efforts in the agricultural field.

He added that with the advent of the nineties, the Gulf region has been witnessing increasing attention to agricultural development, due to the increasing awareness of the important and vital role of agricultural development in various fields.

Nevertheless the official said that the average Gulf citizen is still under-educated in the field of agricultural development, and the Gulf states have been unable to bridge the food gap, which is steadily enlarging.

Production

He stressed the significance of close attention to developing the manpower element as a major factor for optimising productivity and paving the way towards more effective contribution to the implementation of the development which will necessarily be associated with agricultural as well as administrative reforms.

He said that the effective achievement of a good and satisfactory level of production must depend on serious attempts to optimise the development of production factors, and that if the process does not progress at reasonable speed the existing food gap will create or step up food deficiency.

He pointed out that total Arab population forms four per cent of the global population which shares

20 per cent of the world food consumption. The problems lies in the fact that we are among the major importing countries in the world and our current production turnout cannot address existing shortages.

He said that to redress the balance we must reduce dependence on imported food items and optimise food production by upgrading productivity levels, with great attention to quality and standard specification of calorie, protein and nutrients content.

He said that this must be accompanied by a thorough survey intended to determine the food needs for the average Arab individual throughout the developmental stages and into adulthood.

He said that the extravagance in eating or excessive intake of food has led to unfortunate related disease, and this, coupled with the lack of nutritional awareness by parents, led to the deficiency of certain important nutritious factors, such as vitamin D or mineral components such as iodine.

He stressed the need to step up an education campaign to increase the people's awareness of the right eating habits, nutritional diet, diversification of food and other important factors based on the outcome of thorough nutritional studies to help determine the daily supplies of nutrients and calories.

He also said that this also requires careful measures to increase attention to the animal and plant food sources and effective administration of right food to animals and quality fodder to guarantee protein-rich fodder.

He added that other important tasks include the improvement of existing animal rearing techniques to upgrade the meat and dairy production levels.

He said that the nutritional planning in Kuwait seems a little difficult to do as the nutritional habits differ from one family to another and from person to person, depending on the individual's income, and the variation in the types of foods used.

He pointed out that rice, barley, yellow corn, cereal, sugar, table-eggs, wheat, milk products, poultry meat, red meat, fruits, vegetables, plant oils, tea and coffee from more than 98 per cent of the total consumer food items commonly used.



Shield of appreciation

The general manager of Kuwait International Hotel Hermann Simon presented Al Seyassah newspaper with a memorial shield in appreciation of its services to the hotel.

The shield was received by Al Seyassah's deputy editor-in-chief Sulaiman Al Jarallah.

Inter-Islamic co-op

Information ministers to meet in Dakar

JEDDAH, June 13, (AP): Ministers of Information and Culture from 16 Islamic states will meet June 14-16 in Dakar to consider means of boosting inter-Islamic co-operation in these fields, the Organisation of Islamic Conference announced yesterday.

The 46-member OIC, based in the Saudi Arabian port city of Jeddah, is the umbrella for the world's estimated one billion Muslims.

The ministers are members of a standing OIC ministerial committee formed by the Third Islamic Summit in January 1981.

They will meet in Dakar under the chairmanship of Senegalese President Abdou Diouf.

Fund

Among other things, the ministers will consider the establishment of a special fund to boost inter-Islamic co-operation in the domain of culture and information.

The three-day meeting will be attended by Saudi Arabia, Bangladesh, Guinea, Iraq, Kuwait, Morocco, Gabon, Maldives, Palestine, Egypt, Pakistan, Senegal, Turkey, Oman, Sierra Leone and Indonesia.

OIC Secretary-General Hamid Al Ghabid left for Dakar to attend the meeting.

The ministers will discuss a host of questions including the structure of the committee itself, ways and means of implementing an information plan approved by the Islamic information ministers in their first conference held in Jeddah in October 1988 and the unification of the Hijra calendar to have the same beginning of the lunar months.

The Islamic Year is based on lunar sightings.

They will look at reports on Islamic universities in Niger, Uganda, Malaysia and Bangladesh and discuss the activities of some OIC specialised agencies such as the International Islamic News Agency and the Islamic States Broadcasting Organisation.

Names of 25 appointees to N. Council to be announced

KUWAIT, June 13, (Kuna): The names of 25 members who will be appointed in the Interim National Council are expected to be announced today or tomorrow to complete the required 75 members, press reports said here today.

A local daily also expected that the new government would be announced on Saturday or Sunday of next week.

Last night His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Jaber Al Sabah accepted the resignation of HH the Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and his cabinet.

An Amiri decree yesterday stipulated that the prime minister and the ministers remain in their posts until the formation of a new cabinet.

In his letter of resignation HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister said that the cabinet has passed a number of major legislations and continued to take measures to eliminate the effects of the stock market crisis, activate the economic condition and raise the standard of living for the citizens, since it assumed responsibility in 1986.

Another Kuwaiti newspaper, meanwhile, expressed hope that the next new Kuwaiti cabinet would fulfil its duties.

Al Seyassah in an editorial commented on yesterday's resignation of the Kuwaiti cabinet, saying that the previous government "exerted all honest efforts, making some achievements in some spheres and failing in others."

Private sector will develop economy

New blood to market: Khorafi

THE Minister of Finance, Jassim Al Khorafi recently announced that the government represented by the Public Investment Authority will soon begin implementing the privatisation programme of its shares held in some companies.

Speaking to a local daily on the same issue, the director-general of the Kuwait Stock Market, Hisham Al Otaibi confirmed the important role of the private sector to develop the national economic march in view of its flexibility in dealing with different economic issues.

He added that the Kuwaiti economic experiment confirms that the Kuwaiti private sector plays an active role in several economic aspects and commented that privatising some governmental undertakings could be considered a sound idea. Objectively, he said that presently, there are several economic projects managed by the government which could be awarded to the private sector.

He clarified that privatising government shares in companies listed in the bourse will constitute a very positive step towards expanding the base of the course. He said that the private sector forms the main pillar of the stock market in all countries of the world and the step envisaged by the government will add new blood to the market and eventually enhance activities at the bourse.

Enthusiasm
Meanwhile, the chairman and managing director of Burgan Bank, Sheikh Ahmed Abdullah Al Ahmed said that the government will sell its shares in some companies which had been previously purchased by the government as a result of the Manakh crisis. He added that the level of the private sector's enthusiasm to purchase government shares will depend mainly on its study of the financial positions of the companies concerned and their future performance.

The government would obviously be keen to grant ownership of shares of such companies to private sector companies who have a proven track record and would be better placed to bring about a substantial turnaround in the affairs of these firms.

Also speaking on the issue, the Kuwaiti economist, Jassim Al

Sadoun said that privatisation of the public sector does not mean any inevitable guarantee of success as the process of privatisation differs from one country to another. Success depends mainly on several factors, including sophisticated management, innovation, the size of the economy and the targeted objectives which are to be expected from the privatisation process.

Sadoun described the government's recent decision to privatise its shares in some companies listed in the bourse as a trial balloon, clarifying that the timing of the measure was inappropriate. He commented that the privatisation concept should be studied in depth and comprehensive data of those companies to be privatised should be published.

Decision
Meanwhile, the chairman of the Gulf Bank, Dr Abdul Aziz Sultan has praised the privatisation plan mooted by the government and said that for it to be perceived pragmatically, relevant data about companies to be privatised should be made available to facilitate businessmen to study each offer individually.

Sultan said that the private sector could purchase government shares in toto as these shares were few and financially will not cause any burden to impede the implementation of government measures.

However, he reiterated that the provision of the necessary data, including financial details for the last three years, the name of directors and administrative expenses of each company will enable the private sector to arrive at sound decisions prior to purchase.

He called on authorities to take appropriate measures to organise the privatisation process and recommended that the shares should be sold to companies of repute, proven administrative capabilities and sound financial standing.

The director of the Technical Bureau at Kuwait Stock Market and the Secretary-General of the Arab Bourses Union, Dr Sa'ad Al Rukaibi said that the government had gradually come to realise that the companies and the projects affiliated to the state were not performing efficiently and the subsidies granted to these

companies were being misutilised and constituted a financial burden on the government.

Factors
He said that the privatisation process had not been followed on an international level and cited the case of Britain, which from the beginning of the 1980's had denationalised several public productive units. He added that the British privatisation policy was based on several economic and social factors and had proved to be a success as reflected in the British budget which recorded a surplus estimated at £10 billion in 1987.

He added that in the USA, demands for privatisation had also increased, although most of the productive companies there belong to the private sector.

On the other hand, the official said that the Kuwaiti private sector was playing an effective role in the national economy and had always been performing its role successfully. From the beginning of the 1950s up to the end of 1970s, the Kuwaiti private sector was playing a pioneer role in different economic activities.

The chairman of the Bank of Kuwait and the Middle East, Ali Al Bader said that the privatisation process was a positive measure and added that it reflected the serious intention of the government to reactivate the national economy. He said that the government shares in 13 companies were few and their value did not exceed KD one million. Thus, the private sector could purchase them without any financial burdens.

Sea festival

KUWAIT Sea Sport Club continues its comprehensive preparations for the sea heritage revival festival which will be held on July 1, 1990 and will last until August 26, 1990. The club has already announced that GCC states will be participating in the festival this year. So far UAE, Bahrain, and Saudi Arabia have expressed their willingness to participate.

Meanwhile, member of the festival higher organising committee, Najeeb Al Qabandi praised the participation of GCC states in the festival. He pointed out that Kuwait Sea Club was able to achieve many steps in the field of reviving glorious memories of Kuwait's seafaring heritage.

He added that the festival will this year enjoy more popularity and support.

Summit welcomed

KUWAIT, June 13, (Kuna): Kuwait reiterated its welcome to a summit meeting between Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and his Iranian counterpart Hashemi Rafsanjani to achieve lasting and comprehensive peace between the two countries.

Kuwaiti Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed Al Sabah, in an interview with a local daily, said that Kuwait in particular and the Arab and Islamic world in general welcome this meeting, "that will solve the two Muslim neighbouring countries disputes peacefully."

He said that such a meeting will be "a start to construct and strengthen the two countries to confront challenges facing our Islamic nation."

He said this will also reflect on neighbouring countries "particularly Kuwait and will keep our region away from international conflicts."

Earlier reports said that Oman and the Soviet Union expressed their readiness to host an Iraq-Iran summit.

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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

INITIATIVE is doing the right thing without being told — Victor Hugo, French writer (1802-1885).

OPINION

Let us look to the future

PROSPERITY, some say, is a result of stability, while others claim that stability is achieved only when the country becomes prosperous and citizens get involved in the construction of their country and its economic activity.

Stability cannot be achieved only through increasing the number of security personnel — though this is good for a period of time. However, the true guarantor for stability is economic activity. If need be the mother of invention, it is also the infidelity itself. It is said that if need — meaning here poverty was a man, I would have killed him.

Undoubtedly, we have succeeded in establishing stability in our country and only prosperity remains to be created. Previously, popular government economic projects aimed at benefitting the country and the people were received by those accustomed to "cry without shame." These projects were faced with rejection and wrong interpretations by the same people.

Now, after the results of the National Council elections, it has become necessary that the government adopt the economic factor as one of the main goals for its presence and continuity. Kuwait was a vital financial centre and important re-exportive country, a centre for important passage for transit trade and overall it was an important economic gate.

It was a mistake by those who thought that by disturbing the smooth functioning of the government staff, the people would come forward and express dissatisfaction. It is no use crying for things that have gone by. Additionally, we should not try to settle issues of the past. Let us look to the future to restore our glorious past and economic activity.

Kuwait, though being a rich country enjoying plenty of affluent services, its commercial and economic legislations need to be future-oriented to enhance local activity. The coming ten years are very important as we are witnessing the birth of new international relations. Kuwait was once a pioneering country and has now been harmed by controversy and less work. This was because decision-making was not unified.

Now things have changed. Decision-making reflects the majority of the Kuwaiti people who positively responded to the National Council elections.

We should now keep people away from baseless fabrications of those who want the gap to widen among the various classes of society. They do not want the government to work because if it does, it would win the love of the people. By creating tension between the people and the government, these people would thus tend to ride the tide.

Time, it must be remembered, will not wait and will have no mercy on those who lag behind. The pace is fast and we need to activate all forms of work to restore to Kuwait its past active face — if not at least a major part.

It is now high time to achieve this, after all unnecessary talk and rumours have been silenced.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Serbs, Croats buy weapons

BENKOVAC, Yugoslavia. (Reuters): While crowds in the Yugoslav republic of Croatia celebrated their party's victory over the communists in the free elections last month, members of the region's Serbian minority, armed with rifles and axes, mounted night vigils in some areas.

In one town, Benkovac, where Serbs have lived alongside Croats for centuries, tension was so high after an election which fuelled nationalism that both the rival ethnic groups were buying weapons in fear of an explosion of violence.

"The situation here is impossible. Tensions are so high that it could explode at any time," said local lawyer Radomir Kuzet, a Serb.

"It's like living a nightmare. Everyone fears everyone." Kuzet told Reuters that many mixed marriages faced problems. Families were breaking up and former friends from different ethnic groups no longer greeted each on the street.

But Kresimir Zrilic, a Croat who is the outgoing president of Benkovac Town Council, told Reuters: "Inter-ethnic tensions are being overplayed for political purposes. Ugly games are being played here which these people don't deserve."

"Such atmosphere has created some minor problems. But there is hardly a Catholic family here which doesn't have some links to the Orthodox side through inter-marriage and vice versa, and to speak of an explosive situation is grossly exaggerated."

With a mixed population of about 6,000, Benkovac which is near the Adriatic coast, epitomises the ethnic rivalries that are plaguing Yugoslavia as democracy makes its first shy steps after 45 years of communist rule across the country.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1497 — Duke of Gandia is murdered, allegedly by Cesare Borgia who acquires dominant position in Papal politics.
- 1645 — Forces under Oliver Cromwell defeat royalists at Naseby in England.
- 1800 — France's Napoleon Bonaparte defeats Austrians at battle of Marengo and reconquers Italy.
- 1898 — Anglo-French convention defines boundaries in Nigeria and Gold Coast.
- 1939 — Japanese blockade British concession at Tientsin.
- 1940 — German forces occupy Paris in World War II.
- 1941 — US president Franklin D. Roosevelt orders freeing of German and Italian assets in United States.
- 1949 — Vietnam state is established at Saigon under Bao Dai.
- 1959 — United States agrees to provide Greece with nuclear information and supply ballistic rockets.
- 1962 — European Space Research Organization is established at Paris, France.
- 1964 — High winds and floods in West Pakistan destroy hundreds of homes and take more than 250 lives.
- 1967 — US Mariner spacecraft is launched toward Venus to try finding out if that planet can support life.
- 1975 — Soviet Union launches its second spacecraft in six days toward Venus for October rendezvous designed to land one or two capsules on planet.
- 1980 — United States rejects European call for role by Palestine Liberation Organization in Middle East peace talks.
- 1987 — Pope John Paul II ends week-long pilgrimage to his native Poland with stern lecture about human rights to nation's communist leadership.
- 1988 — Nicaragua's president Daniel Ortega outlines new economic measures that lift controls from prices and wages.
- 1989 — China arrests more activists, expels journalists and warns United States to stop interfering in internal affairs.

Prediction puts ex-Reds ahead

First Bulgarian polls in four decades

SOFIA, (Reuters): Bulgarian opposition supporters, stunned by predictions that former communists have won the country's first free elections in four decades, are reacting with a mixture of anger and incredulity.

"This chance, and all this work and for what, for what?" said one voter who claimed to have supported the Union of Democratic Forces (UDF) since it was founded seven months ago.

"This country has just voted in the only officially, freely elected Communist Party in Eastern Europe." The polls on Sunday and a second round on June 17 complete a series of elections in Central and East European countries which have ousted hardline communist leaders.

But Bulgaria, where reformist communists replaced hardline leader Todor Zhivkov last November, is the first where a former Communist Party seems to have retained majority support in multi-party elections.

Results

As the nation waited for full official results of Sunday's first round, forecasts based on a vote sample by the West German institute Infas put the former communists, regrouped as the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP), in the lead with 47.6 per cent. This would translate into 98 of the 300 seats in the 400-member national assembly to be decided on a proportional basis.

Infas gave the UDF, whose leaders had said they were confident of an absolute majority, 36.2 per cent.

In a number of regions the UDF alleged foul play by election officials, despite reports by international observers that the elections were remarkably fair.

But UDF officials also blame fear of reprisals and conservatism for the large BSP vote.

"These were old, scared people who did not understand what was happening," UDF head of external relations Stefan Tsvetkov told Reuters. "We are losing time. The people will suffer as a result of this immaturity."

Western diplomats in Sofia say the explanation for BSP support is partly historical.

Unlike Hungary and Czechoslovakia, which have both ditched their communist governments, Bulgaria never had Soviet troops stationed permanently on its soil.

And hundreds of roads snaking through peasant villages are still dotted with concrete monuments proclaiming "Bulgarian and Soviet communist partnership — friendship for ever."

An East European envoy commented: "It is true that communism is more deeply rooted here than elsewhere in the East Bloc. And there is no doubt that the BSP's election campaign was slicker."

As well as changing their name, the BSP made full use of the national infrastructure, media, and regional offices the old Communist Party had monopolised for 45 years.

In many towns the once cheerless party offices were transformed into pavement cafes with video screens and rock music.

Front man of the socialist campaign was Prime Minister Andrei Lukanov, a multi-lingual economist, whose campaign speeches combined amiable informality with enough old-style rhetoric to reassure older voters.

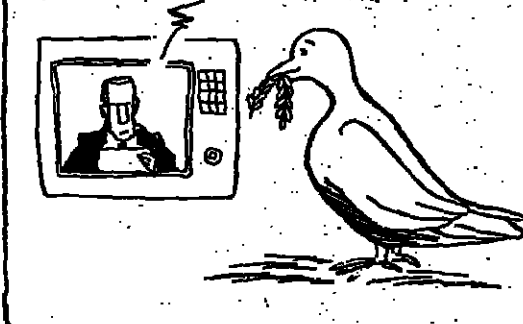
By contrast, the UDF, an alliance of 16 diverse opposition groups, had to scramble to fund their campaign with foreign and voluntary donations.

Their president, philosopher Zhelyu Zhelev, is a small, quietly spoken man with little experience of public politics.

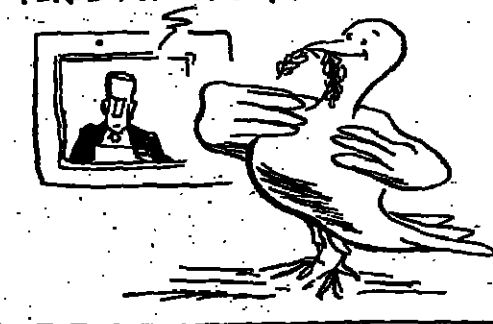
"In the little time they had to get organised, the UDF did not manage to produce any leader with what you would call charisma," one diplomat said.

"If you add to that Bulgarian conservatism and perhaps an element of intimidation in some provinces, I think you have something like an answer."

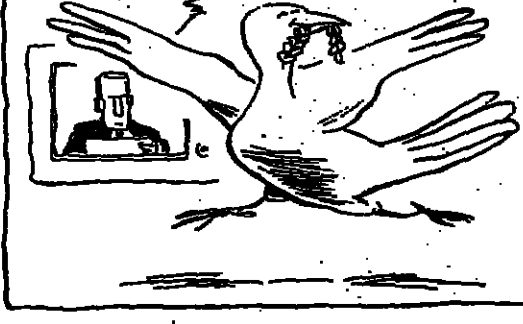
BUSH AND GORBACHEV DECLARED AN END TO THE COLD WAR



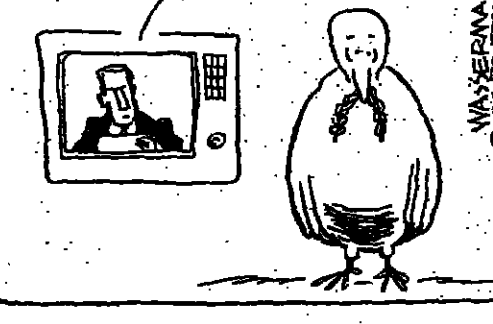
THEY PROCLAIMED A NEW ERA OF PEACE AND UNDERSTANDING...



... AND VOWED TO BEAT THEIR NUCLEAR WARHEADS INTO PLOUGHSHARES



... AT LEAST 30% OF THEM



ties — friendship for ever."

An East European envoy commented: "It is true that communism is more deeply rooted here than elsewhere in the East Bloc. And there is no doubt that the BSP's election campaign was slicker."

As well as changing their name, the BSP made full use of the national infrastructure, media, and regional offices the old Communist Party had monopolised for 45 years.

In many towns the once cheerless party offices were transformed into pavement cafes with video screens and rock music.

Front man of the socialist campaign was Prime Minister Andrei Lukanov, a multi-lingual economist, whose campaign speeches combined amiable informality with enough old-style rhetoric to reassure older voters.

By contrast, the UDF, an alliance of 16 diverse opposition groups, had to scramble to fund their campaign with foreign and voluntary donations.

Their president, philosopher Zhelyu Zhelev, is a small, quietly spoken man with little experience of public politics.

"In the little time they had to get organised, the UDF did not manage to produce any leader with what you would call charisma," one diplomat said.

"If you add to that Bulgarian conservatism and perhaps an element of intimidation in some provinces, I think you have something like an answer."

Romanian govt crushes 'Golania'

BUCHAREST, (Reuters): Romania's government, snuffing out a small but highly visible anti-communist demonstration in central Bucharest, has asserted for the first time the power it won through the ballot box last month.

The decision to send in riot police early on Wednesday to clear the protest site dubbed "Golania", which had blocked a main street for seven weeks, was a calculated gamble.

The government of President Ion Iliescu appeared confident that the law and public opinion were on its side.

It also seemed sure that objections to the swift pre-dawn raid against a hard core of about 100 demonstrators would come only from committed opponents. "They were showing who's the boss," said a Romanian bystander.

Iliescu and his ruling National Salvation Front took power after Stalinist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu was ousted during a bloody uprising last December.

But Front leaders — some, like Iliescu, former Communist Party official who had fallen out of

favour with Ceausescu — soon aroused the anger of anti-communists who charged that they hijacked the revolution.

Iliescu, 60, has dismissed these charges and pledged to turn Romania into a modern social democracy with a market economy.

He won more than 85 per cent in presidential elections on May 20, and the Front captured over two-thirds of the seats in both chambers of the new Parliament.

The police broke up the demonstration only two days before Iliescu was expected to be sworn in formally as head of state.

The Front's landslide victory took much of the sting out of the Golania protest, which got its nickname when Iliescu publicly dismissed the protesters as "Golans" (hooligans).

But fluctuating numbers of demonstrators and hunger strikers — at night, no more than a few dozen — continued to occupy a 200-metre (yard) stretch of Magheru Boulevard, near Bucharest University, shouting "down with communism" and blocking traffic along one of the city's

main arteries.

Golania became an institution, and their "no-communist-free zone" part of the scenery.

Protest

Many who joined the original protest on April 23, several thousand strong, gave up after the election, but the protest was a thorn in the government's flesh.

Its character changed. While a hard core of anti-communists kept up their slogans, drifters and street-traders moved in and out behind Golania's flimsy barricades.

Public grumbling over traffic diversions increased.

The police moved in just hours after Romania's public prosecutor said the situation had become intolerable and urged the government "to order the necessary measures to restore public order in keeping with the law."

The prosecutor's office alleged that black marketing, gambling, prostitution, violence, theft and other disturbances of public order had taken place during the demonstration.

Letters to the editor

Kuwait Afghans

SIR: Nowadays Afghans in Kuwait have problems getting visas to Pakistan. It used to be very easy for us to acquire visas. We wonder why our Muslim brothers in Pakistan embassy are cutting us off. We would at least want to get clarification from the embassy of Pak as to why it has resorted to this sort of action.

We hope you will reconsider your decision to facilitate easy access to Pakistani visas. Please don't forsake us.

Abulhaq and colleagues, Fahaheel

AI fare hike

SIR: Thanks to Air India, Kuwait, for its prompt clarification on the general misconception about air fare hike (AT 10/6).

Call the reasons by any name — discount reduction (which, I believe, is mostly forced upon local agents by the oscillating policies of the airlines), withdrawal of incentives, falling in line with other airlines, or whatever it may be, the stark fact remains that AI passengers to India are forced to shell out more dollars every year on one pretext or other for their tickets. What else can the passengers be concerned about, when threatened by a labouring economy gnawing at their job security and wage structure?

It is strange that it should take years of uproar by the frustrated passengers for the Indian government to feel the wind and to announce appointing (not yet done — you know how our government machinery grinds) a high level consultative committee to study the matter (just imagine how "complicated" an issue it could be to study for eg. How is it that AI's excursion fare for Kuwait/Trivandrum/Kuwait is KD260/- while that of Air Lanka's for Kuwait/Colombo/Kuwait is KD210/-, why Trivandrum airport cannot be upgraded to international standard to help boost traffic in order to lessen the miseries of the Gulf passengers and also to bolster the flow of tourists and foreign exchange, why AI should monopolise the use of Trivandrum airport and with what idea).

Committee

I hope the committee will, as is the general practice, comprise top politicians and leaders of all parties and will unfailingly include in its agenda an exhaustive study/fact finding tour to all the Gulf countries and, if possible, to other Western countries as well, served by AI and where Indians are working.

One needs be surprised only if it takes less than a decade for the findings of the committee to see light and get safely shelved in cold storage.

How many national leaders and ministers showered flowery assurances and promises in the past on the grievances of the Gulf expatriates and everybody knows what the outcome have been. This has come to stay stereotyped.

Do we still have to live in a fool's paradise, hypnotized by the AI Maharajah's colourful but deceitful ads?

Which airline in the world is as erratic as AI is in sticking to flight schedules? Is it not a 'news' now if a flight lands and departs in time?

On the contrary AI Maharajah advertises inviting you into a dreamland of air travel with unmatched comforts, perfect and royal in

every sense — so royal that you are lured into the lion's den with no returning foot-prints.

Sit-in

It was only recently that irate Dubai-Trivandrum passengers staged a sit-in protest in the aircraft at Trivandrum against alleged "sumptuous" lunch of two biscuits and a cup of coffee served on board within a period of nine hours including delay in departure at Dubai. AI authorities had to apologise openly to save the situation (remember, to improve the catering service AI is reported to have contracted, not long time ago, a firm from Europe, as if there are no experts in India).

In August 1989, 'Daily Mail' (London) classified AI as the worst airline in terms of number of flights, punctuality and service in the link between London and New York.

Is it any better in their service between Gulf and India?

It is worth noting what Reuters reported (AT 20/2/90) about the passenger reactions upon the grounding of Indian Airlines Airbus A 320 consequent on the Bangalore tragedy "... fury often directed at an airline that has become notorious for routine, lengthy delays and bad service was evident. ... no comments are needed."

From the repeating unpunctuality of AI flights it is to be believed that AI is short of aircraft and is putting too much strain on existing ones, finding little time to carry out proper and timely maintenance. This must be the reason for the frequent breakdowns, cutting short flights and consequent delays and cancellations. This is indeed a grave situation to be reckoned with when choosing a flight. If AI authorities have no value for human lives, the passengers cannot ignore it.

The recent call for boycotting AI is gathering momentum indicating that the passengers have reached their wit's end. This is the only and sure way to contain the exploitation and to make the 'Maharajah' feel with his subjects. Let us join hands by taking up this as a prestige issue for every Indian in order to see that his country's flag carrier cater to the needs of its countrymen in the first place, simultaneously, building up a standard befitting the reputation of a great democracy.

C.K. Sanyal, Safat.

ALL Letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Prague

Cult growing around Havel

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia. (AP): President Vaclav Havel, the symbol of the anti-communist revolution, has built enormous power and popularity since taking office. Much of the public following is genuine veneration, but critics say a "cult of personality" is growing up that Havel does too little to control.

After his fairy-tale progression from prison to the presidency last year, Havel has become a national father figure. Particularly for his fellow Czechs, who make up two-thirds of the 15.5 million citizens.

In Prague, a stronghold of the Civic Forum movement Havel founded to lead the revolution, pictures and buttons of the president are everywhere.

The president himself complained in late April that his popularity had reached such extremes that he could no longer say, for instance, that he disliked a passing dog. If he did so, he said, he'd find five people ready to shoot the dog.

But some critics who observed Havel closely before and after he took office say the president has developed a tangible taste for the power he was once reluctant to hold and does too little to discourage such veneration.

"We have a new cult of personality," said an ex-dissident who asked not to be identified out of past loyalty to Havel. "He has always relied on friendly opinions around him... there is too little criticism."

After taking office, Havel appointed friends, mostly fellow dissidents, to a broad range of influential positions at the castle that dominates Prague's skyline.

Fellow dissident Jiri Kauter took over state television, and another fellow dissident, Petr Uhl, the state news agency CTK. Civic Forum sympathizers control key ministries and institutions such as the state prosecutors' office.

Nobody suggests that these people are anything but democratic and admirable for their courage in fighting communism.

On Sunday, however, TV viewers waiting to watch their World Cup Soccer team crush the United States 5-1 were treated to the third broadcast in four months of the star-studded tribute to Havel when he visited New York.

Czechoslovakia's soccer captain, Ivan Masaryk, dedicated the World Cup victory to Civic Forum and Havel personally.

Such reverence and the Czechoslovak media's reluctance to criticize Havel stem in part from the lack of free expression in four decades of communist rule and Nazi domination before that.

Journalists say they also think twice about writing critical articles because, in the new climate of free market competition, newspapers must worry about the readership loss that might result.

Vladimir Mlynar, a writer for the Lidove Noviny independent daily, said an article he wrote criticizing the practice of shutting off whole streets for Havel's motorcade drew mixed letters.

Anonymous said, "Thank God somebody is saying it," he said, "other critics, asking 'how dare you attack our idol?'"

The overwhelming victory for Civic Forum and its Slovak ally public against violence was in large measure a personal endorsement of Havel.

Havel openly evokes the president who molded that non-partisan tradition — Thomas Garrigue Masaryk, founder of Czechoslovakia in 1918 and president until 1935.

Presidential spokesman Michael Zantovsky, asked about Havel's popularity, said it was to some extent inevitable.

"This is a new-found nation... which looks for self-confidence," he said. "Just as something close to a cult of personality was built around Masaryk after independence in 1918, so we see the same kind of thing happening."

But Havel also cultivates the comparison. He loves to frequent Lany, the country residence built for Masaryk. He addresses the nation each Sunday by radio in the "talk from Lany."

As a dissident, Havel embraced Masaryk's motto, "truth will prevail" and advocated "living in truth." As president, Havel's motto is: "Truth and love must prevail over lies and hatred."

A Czech television journalist who has watched Havel closely said the president has yet to succumb to the "cult of personality."

By contrast, he said, those around the president tend to be too uncritical.

"If... he keeps on relying on friendly advice rather than real expertise, he may pay dearly for this," said the journalist, who like others spoke on condition of anonymity because he said he feared for his job.

Zantovsky said the press shouldn't be so cautious. "We need people who are willing to go public and criticize whatever aspect of Havel's activities they don't like," he said.

While doubting willing to accept criticism, the president is now using the power and influence he has built.

He now says, for example, that he will stand for re-election only if he can appoint a government serving national interest.

Given his enormous popularity at home and abroad, the threat not to stand exerts powerful pressure for a government made to Havel's liking. The young democracy identified with Havel would suffer from the political turmoil and lack of foreign aid that might result from his resignation.

The still fragile democracy could also suffer from the almost certain break-up of Civic Forum during the two-year parliamentary term.

QUOTE ME

"We feel considerable progress has been made." White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said when asked if the Soviet Union had softened its resistance to the Western demand that Germany be part of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

"We understand that Israel has had to struggle to preserve itself. We understand that no country can be expected to take a risk for peace unless it feels secure. Rest assured therefore that the United States remains committed to ensuring Israel's security and we will continue to support Israel's qualitative military edge in the region." US Defence Secretary Dick Cheney.

Khaddafi orders new armed force

ROME, June 13, (AP): Libyan Leader Col Moammar Khaddafi yesterday ordered the formation of a new armed force made up of civilian volunteers known as the "People's Guards," Libyan radio said.

The radio said Khaddafi's order, which takes effect immediately, recalls "the historic proclamation of the establishment of people's authority... the creation of the armed people and the abolishing of the traditional army."

However, the broadcast did not announce the abolishing of the traditional army or give any timetable for the disbanding it.

Khaddafi announced on Aug 31, 1988, that he called the abolishing of the "classical army and the traditional police," saying they would be replaced with armed

civilian volunteers.

The Libyan leader had spoken previously of abolishing the army, but that speech to military cadets marked the first time he publicly discussed what he envisioned.

He said it again during the ceremonies marking last September's 20th anniversary of the revolution that brought him to power. However, although a parade to celebrate the anniversary included armed civilian volunteers, it also included regular army units in uniform.

The radio said yesterday that the new "people's guards" will be formed from volunteers "who have the desire and who always welcome sacrifice and are ready to give and offer."

It said the order specifies that volunteers

will receive no material gain and that full time service is not obligatory.

The radio, without elaborating, said the volunteers must demonstrate the ability to discharge their duty and acquire the necessary combat training. It said the volunteers also must show "discipline, cohesion and revolutionary commitment."

Khaddafi's order, the radio said, said the secretary of the ad-hoc general committee for defence will appoint the commanders and ensure "efficient standards" are maintained.

When Khaddafi first announced his idea to abolish the traditional army, he said that 1 million Libyans had used their salaries to buy weapons that would be kept in barracks and used by the people in case of security threats.

His ideas seemed unclear, however, because at the same time he made it clear some mandatory military service was still required and indicated under the new system there would still be military officers with authority over the civilian militias.

A West German businessman told a court today he secretly helped Libya build a chemicals factory, which the United States and West Germany allege to be a poison gas plant.

Former company executive Juergen Hippenstiel-Imhausen pleaded guilty to violating West German export and tax laws on the third day of his trial.

He resigned as manager of Imhausen-Chemie and was arrested in May, 1989 after scandal broke last year about the secluded desert installation in Rabta.

Israeli jailed for tear-gassing

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 13, (Reuters): The Israeli army jailed a reserve lieutenant for 10 days for tear-gassing 66 Arab children, most of them babies, inside a United Nations maternity clinic in the Gaza Strip, military sources said today.

Theoretically speaking, it could have led to serious consequences because we are talking about babies," a military source said when asked to explain the swift army punishment of the officer.

The bottom line is that it was such a serious deviation that the army viewed it very, very seriously, even if it was in response to stone-throwing," the source said.

The officer hurled a tear-gas grenade into the crowded UN Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa) Swedish health centre in Gaza City yesterday. The manufacturer's instructions say the tear-gas must not be used in closed areas.

Witnesses said babies foamed at the mouth because of the gas. The army said the officer acted contrary to orders when according to the army, stones and building blocks were hurled at his patrol from inside the maternity clinic.

Palestinians say dozens of babies and elderly Arabs have died because of Israel's misuse of tear-gas in fighting a 30-month-old uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. The army denies anybody died as a result of tear-gas.

The Arab League, citing the clinic incident under Israel's new rightist government, demanded that the UN Security Council intervene to protect Palestinians in the occupied territories.

"The Israeli government inaugurates its new policy with an aggression which is a direct challenge to the UN," the League said in a statement issued in Tunis.

In the West Bank at least 13 girls were injured by rubber bullets and tear-gas fired by Israeli soldiers trying to break up a demonstration in a secondary school in Ramallah today.

Ramallah hospital officials said they treated more than 45 people, most for tear-gas inhalation, yesterday and today in a marked increase in the army's use of tear-gas against Palestinian demonstrators.

A radical Palestinian group said today the tear-gassing of Palestinian babies in Gaza was "the beginning of the series of actions promised by the new Israeli government to crush the uprising."

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, led by George Habash, strongly condemned the action.

An Israeli arrested for killing seven Palestinians twice attempted suicide in police custody last weekend, his lawyer said today.

Lawyer David Ofek told Israel radio that Ami Popper tried to kill himself on Friday and Saturday.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation has received information that Israel was plotting to kill its chairman, Yasser Arafat, and key aides, the UAE daily newspaper Al Itihad reported today.

As a result, the newspaper said, Arafat has frozen activities in African countries.

"The PLO has received accurate information through a number of European and African states on an Israeli assassination plot against Arafat and some other PLO leaders," Al Itihad said.

Targets of the alleged plot include Salah Khalaf, Farouk Kaddoumi, Hakam Balawi plus six other figures, who were not named by the paper.

Yasser Arafat has turned down an American offer to upgrade the US-Palestinian dialogue if he explicitly condemns a commando raid on Israeli beaches, a top PLO official said today in Baghdad.



Israeli Army Chief of Staff, Dan Shomron (left), gestures Wednesday while speaking with Defence Minister Moshe Arens on a visit to occupied West Bank. (Reuters wirephoto)

Israel invites UN emissary to probe

PLO says it's under-the-belly blow

UNITED NATIONS, June 13, (Agencies): Israel invited a UN envoy to the occupied territories to investigate violence and alleged abuse of Palestinians, after having rejected the idea previously.

The PLO's UN observer, Zuhdi Labib Terzi, criticized the gesture yesterday, saying Israel was trying to "undercut" Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

"I think the move is a cheap under-the-belly blow because they knew very well that the secretary-general

will be sending a mission, so they came with a mission that appears to be their own initiative."

The invitation yesterday was the first official action of the 1-day-old ultra-conservative Israeli government in the international arena.

"The government of Israel, on our own initiative, extends to the secretary-general an invitation to (secretariat director) Jean-Claude Aime to visit Israel as an envoy in the framework of a visit to the region," Israeli Ambassador Johanan Bein told

He made the statement after a meeting with Perez de Cuellar, who had sought to send as observers both Aime and Francis Blanchard, special adviser on economic development in the occupied Palestinian territories.

"The envoy is not going there to negotiate, he is going to visit and report back to the secretary-general," Bein told reporters.

Bein, Israel's acting permanent representative, said Israel "definitely will extend full co-operation" to the UN envoy. He said the invitation was limited to Aime.

He did not give a date for the visit, but UN officials said it could take place very soon. Arab nations have said that the new hardline Israeli government and the violence in the territories makes it imperative that the United Nations take emergency action to protect Palestinians.

The move may ease diplomatic tension. Arab envoys had said that if Israel rejected a personal mission by the secretary-general, then they would take the entire issue to the General Assembly.

Arab states had sought to dispatch a special observer team of the members of the Security Council because they said that the secretary-general's reports in the past had been ignored by Israel and the United States.

■ Israeli Defence Minister Moshe Arens visited the two biggest Jewish settlements of the occupied West Bank today in a gesture he said signalled their importance to Israel's new rightist government.

"It's not by coincidence that on my first visit as defence minister, I go to Ariel," said Arens, 64, whose duties include handling a 30-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israel in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"I believe it must be understood that ensuring the safety of the Jewish residents in Judea and Samaria (Biblical names for the West Bank) is one of the most important goals of the defence policy of the government of Israel," he told reporters.

■ Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak telephoned US President George Bush yesterday to discuss the situation in the Middle East, Egypt's Middle East News Agency (Mena) said.

US-PLO talks 'Condemn raid'

WASHINGTON, June 13, (Reuters): President George Bush said yesterday he had not decided whether to break off talks with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), but demanded that it condemn a recent raid on Israel by one of its factions.

"I want to see that terrorist act condemned and those who did it condemned," Bush told reporters.

He also said he had discussed the matter earlier in the day with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Earlier Secretary of State James Baker said a decision on further contacts with the PLO had been deferred to give the group another chance to condemn the raid and discipline the man who led it.

"We are hopeful we will get those responses... not optimistic but hopeful," he told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Baker said an "extraordinary number of NATO allies and other friendly governments" had urged the Bush administration "not to rush our decision" on whether to continue the dialogue, which began 18 months ago when the PLO renounced terrorism and recognised Israel's right to exist.

At a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) foreign ministers' meeting in Scotland last week, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd urged Baker to maintain the contacts, saying a break in the dialogue would be a serious setback in the peace process.

The talks are now in jeopardy because of a May 30 raid by a PLO faction, the Palestine Liberation Front, headed by Mohammed Abbas, a member of the PLO executive committee.

Israeli security forces thwarted the attack, which Washington has condemned as terrorism.

The PLO, in its second statement on the incident, on Monday condemned military attacks against civilians but did not specifically denounce the May 30 raid.

■ The result was a surprise since

OCCUPIED GAZA, June 13, (Reuters): Muslim fundamentalists have swept to victory for the first time in elections for the staff council of the UN Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa) in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip, UN officials said today.

They said candidates backed by the Islamic resistance movement Hamas won 15 of the 27 seats with supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and independents taking the remaining 12.

Unrwa, the biggest employer in the Gaza Strip, has long been regarded as a bastion of secular Palestinian nationalism.

UN officials said the pro-PLO vote was split between two rival lists, one composed of supporters of Yasser Arafat's mainstream Fatah movement and the other with leftists.

The electorate was the largest in any poll taken in the occupied territories since the start of a 30-month-old uprising against Israeli rule. The result confirmed a strong Islamic trend in elections this year in

(SPLA) and government troops. "We are forced to live high up, because you can see your enemy from a far. When you are down, there is no security," Felix Otome, an elder of Odongiok, told Reuters.

When Otome was a child in the 1940s, Odongiok, 1,125 (700 miles) south of Khartoum, moved down the hill after British colonial officials put an end to tribal warfare and cattle raiding.

But Otome and fellow southerners took up arms with the separatist Anyanya guerrilla movement shortly before independence in January 1956 and his village went back up the hill.

In 1972, a peace agreement granted the south

Israel supplies hi-tech to China

LOS ANGELES, June 13, (UPI): Israel has become the biggest supplier of advanced military technology to China since the United States banned military sales in the wake of the Chinese crackdown on the democracy movement, and the Bush administration is concerned, a published report said today.

Quoting unidentified administration sources, the Los Angeles Times reported that US officials have told Israel they strongly oppose the military co-operation because it undercuts the intended effect of the US sanctions.

"This is over our objections," a senior administration official told the newspaper. "I'd rather not get into the tit-for-tat on this, but they know our views."

US officials insisted that Israel is not operating as a proxy for the United States in the military sales, as it did when it supplied arms to Iran during the Iran-Contra arms-for-hostages affair.

Israel, which does not have formal diplomatic relations with China, recently opened an office of the Israeli Academy of Sciences in Beijing.

"They have opened this institute in Beijing which is facilitating a whole range of military-to-military co-operation between Israel and China," a senior US official said.

The newspaper said intelligence experts in the West and Asia believe Israel in recent years has provided China with some of the advanced technology needed to modernize China's jet planes and missiles — such as electronics and guidance systems.

Another administration official said Israeli co-operation with China not only provides cash for its arms industry, but enables Israel to obtain information about missile programmes in China, a leading supplier of weapons to several of Israel's Middle East adversaries.

The official speculated the co-operation may be one factor that has restrained China from exporting its newly developed M-9 short-range missiles to such countries as Iraq and Syria.

The official said China sees Israel as a "back door to US technology that the United States won't sell them."

Before the United States gives advanced military hardware or technology to Israel, the US government insists on assurances that Israel will not pass the material or technology on to a third party.

"Obviously, the Israelis have a lot of things that come from us," said a Defence Department official. "It's hard to tell which of the stuff they are giving China is (Israel's) and what comes from us."

■ The Gaza doctors' and engineers' associations.

About 4,500 local Unrwa employees voted in three separate ballots for representatives of teachers, general service workers and labourers last Friday and Saturday.

Palestinians said the voting pattern suggested that Hamas could score an upset if an election were held in the Gaza Strip under Israeli proposals to choose negotiators on Palestinian self-rule in the occupied territories.



A veiled Algerian woman casts her vote at a polling station in Algiers on Tuesday in the country's first free elections that end 25 years of one-party rule and test the rising power of Muslim fundamentalists. (Reuters wirephoto)

Amnesty deeply concerned

Somalia detains prominent critics

MOGADISHU, June 13, (Reuters): Somali police have detained a group of prominent critics of President Mohamed Siad Barre after they published a manifesto calling for a caretaker government to restore human rights and order.

The Interior Ministry said in a statement last night that those arrested had been detained for inciting people to acts of violence against the government.

The statement did not name anyone but eyewitnesses said those arrested included Somalia's first president, Aden Abdulle Osman, former president of the parliament Sheikh Mukhtar Mohamed Hussein and a former police chief.

A newly-formed group, the Council for National Reconciliation and Salvation (CNRS), published the "Mogadishu Manifesto Number 1," on May 15.

The human rights group Amnesty International reported the arrests earlier from its London headquarters, saying about 50 people had been arrested and dozens more were being rounded up in connection with the manifesto.

Amnesty said security police were searching for the remainder of the more than 100 people who signed it.

"(Amnesty) is deeply concerned that these mass arrests of non-violent critics of the government at a time when the government had seemed willing to make human rights improvements," it said in a statement.

Somalia, on the Horn of

Africa, has been fighting rebels sworn to topple Siad Barre since 1981.

The government statement said the signatories of the original manifesto had produced a second manifesto and sent it to diplomats in Mogadishu. It did not disclose its contents.

An Amnesty delegation had been due to hold talks with the Somali government this week but the human rights watchdog said the trip was postponed at short notice by the authorities.

Amnesty said it had reports the detainees were being held in Mogadishu by the national security service at an NSS headquarters known as "the hole."

"There are fears that they could be detained incommunicado for a prolonged and indefinite period without any charge being brought against them and that they could be denied medical treatment or subjected to other ill-treatment," it said.

A news release said many of those arrested had earlier been released after long periods of imprisonment without charge or trial under old rule. Some had been declared "prisoners of conscience" by Amnesty International, which campaigns to free non-violent people who it deems were arrested for their opinions.

Civil war broke out in 1988 between the government and the opposition Somali National Movement, and at least 400,000 refugees have fled to neighbouring Ethiopia.

Blasts rock LF base

BEIRUT, June 13, (Reuters): Explosions rocked a barracks of the Lebanese Forces, a right-wing Christian militia, in hills north of Beirut, witnesses said today.

Reports of explosions have been denied by an LF spokesman but people who were near the barracks in the town of Judaydat Ghazir said they heard big blasts on Monday night.

A report of the explosions was broadcast yesterday by a radio station controlled by General Michel Aoun, LF leader Samir Geagea's rival for power in Lebanon's Christian enclave.

It said the blasts sparked a fire in a petrol station, damaged houses and caused many casualties among militiamen and civilians in the town, 25 km (16 miles) northeast of Beirut.

The LF threw a cordon around the barracks — where ammunition including artillery shells are stored — and prevented journalists from approaching, it said.

The commander of the South Lebanon Army (SLA), a largely Christian militia allied to Israel, said yesterday the leaders of warring Christian forces in Lebanon should step down and cede power to the government.

General Antoine Lahd, a Christian, said in an interview that Aoun and Geagea, had reached a deadlock in their four-month-old war for control of east Beirut.

Lebanon's minister of labour yesterday suspended until further notice granting work permits to foreigners in the war-torn country, the official news agency said.

The national information agency said Michel Sassan took the decision "in light of the public interest and to protect the Lebanese working class."

Illegal traders dodge armies

SHEBAA, Lebanon, June 13, (AP): On most nights, the Nightingale, the Flying Carpet and the King clamper along the rocky smugglers' trail in the foothills of Mount Hermon between Lebanon, Syria and Israel.

Carrying American cigarettes, Scotch whisky and electrical appliances for Syria on their backs, they run the gamut of Syrian and Israeli soldiers dug in along a front that threads across the snow-capped, 9,200-foot (2,800-metre) mountain.

On the return leg, they carry diesel fuel from Iran and other goods that are prized in lawless Lebanon, where civil war began in 1975 and central authority collapsed long ago.

The Nightingale, the Flying Carpet and the King are mules specially trained for the six-hour trek on and around Mount Hermon, where the borders of Lebanon, Syria and Israel intersect.

Because of their special skills, each mule is worth about \$3,000, twice the average for a pack animal in southeast Lebanon. Those skills include recognising and running from anyone in military uniform and leading pack trains of up to 100 mules.

"It's a no-man's land out there," said Adnan Daher, a 16-year-old smuggler. "The Israelis are on a hill to the west, the Syrians on a hill to the east and Lebanon behind us."

No accurate figures on the smuggling trade are available, but diplomats in Syria say it amounts to hundreds of millions of dollars a year.

Shebaa, a predominantly Sunni Muslim town in the Israeli-occupied sector of south Lebanon, has been a smugglers' haven for decades. The men of Shebaa have traditionally defied authority.

About 5,000 of Shebaa's original population of 200,000 still live in Shebaa, said Mohammed Zohairi, a sprightly man of 90 who has been mukhtar, or mayor, for 45 years.

The others went to Beirut, other parts of Lebanon or the oil-rich Gulf states because "work opportunities are scarce here," Zohairi said while sipping tea with visitors.

He said the "mulers," she calls them, "have known no other way of making a living. They were born on muleback."

Some of his 40 grandsons are mukhtars, as his own father was, Zohairi said, and added, "It's Shebaa's profession."

Over the border in Syria is Sirghaya, the nerve centre of Syrian smugglers, where half the 15,000 people live off the contraband business.

"They'd have to arrest the whole town if they wanted to stop us," said a merchant in nearby Madaya, the main outlet for the smuggled goods. He was unwrapping high-heeled Italian shoes that had just crossed the frontier.

Although it costs money in lost tax revenue, diplomats say, the illegal trade also helps the troubled Syrian economy.

A recent report by the US embassy in Damascus said: "The off-the-books economy is both a score point and a salvation. The black market provides badly needed goods and in many ways keeps the economy going."

Because of the steady flow of contraband, the planners of Syria's socialist economy do not have to divert precious foreign exchange for imports President Hafez Assad's government generally turns a blind eye as long as the trade keeps to border towns.

Diplomats in Damascus said there even was a sizable illicit trade in goods from Israel through the Israeli occupied zone in South Lebanon.

Iron reinforcing bars and other building materials are particularly prized in Syria. The US embassy report said Syrian construction workers "would be out of jobs but for smuggled building materials."

Daher, the 16-year-old smuggler from Shebaa, said after a recent nocturnal expedition. "We provide whatever our Syrian partners demand."

He said the Shebaa men hand over their loads to Syrian mule trains.

Each mule carries about 100 kgs, or 220 pounds. Each smuggler owns two mules and clears about \$100 a week, four times the average wage in Lebanon.

"Syrian soldiers usually start intercepting us after the snow melts," said a smuggler who identified himself only as Ahmed. "We move to another unloading spot close to the Israeli-controlled hill. The Syrians don't go there."

A few days earlier, a Syrian customs patrol fired on a pack train from Shebaa and killed a mule, but the smugglers escaped with the rest of their animals.

Sudanese village of Odongiok a barometer of war and peace

Shifts from mountains to savannah and back during waves of civil strife and tranquillity

ODONGIOK, Sudan, June 13, (Reuters): Like a barometer of war and peace, this southern Sudanese village has shifted from mountains to savannah and back during successive waves of civil strife and tranquillity.

It has moved four times during the past half century.

At present, Odongiok, with a few hundred residents living in mud and thatch huts, perches like a mediaeval fortress high above the plains.

Villagers farm maize fields on the plains below and endure exhausting treks up the rocky slope because on the hill they are safe from fighting between the Sudan People's Liberation Army

(SPLA) and government troops. "We are forced to live high up, because you can see your enemy from a far. When you are down, there is no security," Felix Otome, an elder of Odongiok, told Reuters.

When Otome was a child in the 1940s, Odongiok, 1,125 (700 miles) south of Khartoum, moved down the hill after British colonial officials put an end to tribal warfare and cattle raiding.

But Otome and fellow southerners took up arms with the separatist Anyanya guerrilla movement shortly before independence in January 1956 and his village went back up the hill.

In 1972, a peace agreement granted the south

regional autonomy. The village returned to the plains.

But relations between the north and south deteriorated again and the south launched the current rebellion in May 1983, a few months before military leader Jaafar Nimeiri imposed Islamic law.

Many of the village's young men are now soldiers with the SPLA.

Rebel fighters, some of them barely teenagers, have no uniforms and wear sandals made from discarded tyres.

Their war reflects the inherent tensions of Sudan, Africa's largest country, which straddles the continent's uneasy frontier of the Muslim, Arab north and

the black ethnic groups to the south.

The SPLA is fighting for a secular state and against what the rebels regard as the north's domination of southerners, who are either Christians or follow traditional religions.

The rebels have overrun an area larger than the whole of neighbouring Uganda. In the south, the government is confined to the besieged regional capital Juba and about 17 garrison towns.

Otome says the southerners are fighting for a fair share of the country's wealth and development.

"Look at us," he says, gesturing to a group of half-naked women who spend their days carrying water and food from miles away.

EVENTS

VIDEO CORNER

By Brian Hollis

THE sensation of 'this year's American box office has been the arrival in town of those half-shell heroes *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*. Already grossing over \$120 million dollars the movie looks set to rival *Batman* for the all time record. The turtles have been around in cartoon form in the States for some time now, and their live appearance on screen is delighting millions of prepubescent fans.

In the movie, the half-teenagers/half turtles are played by live actors, with help from Jim Henson's tricks for some characters. Originally drawn as sendups of the gritty comics flooding the market, they have unusual mutant characteristics such as cravings for pizza and a propensity towards phrases like 'kowabunga, dude'. Living in New York's sewers under the guidance of a man sized rat called Master Splinter, the turtles fight the crimes initiated by the evil Ninja Shredder. When their cover is blown by TV news reporter April O'Neil and street vigilante Casey Jones, the group bands together to help free the kidnapped splinter, and release Shredder's men from his domination.

Donatello, Leonardo, Raphael and Michelangelo are not quite the Marx Brothers, but they offer enough jokes and hijinks to keep most kids (and plenty of adults) happy. Rumour has it that you can get the tape free in Kuwait if you happen to eat at Pizza Italia.

Rob Lowe's off screen life has been the subject of some heavy publicity recently and those who thought it would adversely affect his film career are proved wrong by his latest release *Bad Influence*, a psychological thriller which grips the viewer from the beginning.

Michael Boll (James Spader) is well to do yuppie, longing for a bit of action and adventure.



Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: 'Kowabunga dudes'.

Ninja turtles in action

Enter Alex (Rob Lowe), a smooth stranger who embodies Michael's darker leanings. He immediately zeroes in on Michael's yearnings and makes it his new hobby to persuade Michael to follow through on every dangerous urge he possesses. At first Michael is thrilled — he stands up to a conniving colleague, dumps his socialite fiancée and indulges in some disreputable business which earns him a promotion. In time, however, Alex's influence leads to armed robbery and then murder. When slow to get-wise Michael tries to back out of this perverse friendship, Alex cold bloodedly frames Michael for the crimes he had committed.

Joey (Kline), is an Italian American pizzeria owner who loves life, food, hard work... and women. He is married to sweet, naive Rosalie (Tracey Ullman) who is blissfully ignorant that her

husband is twanging the bedsprings of virtually ever girl he meets... until one day she discovers the awful truth. Her Hungarian mother (superbly acted by Joan Plowright) calmly arrives at a solution — 'kill the skunk!' When an old friend fails with a baseball bat and the pizzeria waiter fails with a gun, two spaced out hitmen (gloriously played by William Hurt and Keanu Reeves) spend one very long evening trying to exterminate the by now very sick Joey. However, in spite of two bottles of sleeping pills, a baseball bat to the head and gunshot wounds to head and chest, Joey refuses to die, and wanders round the room complaining about a virus.

Unfortunately, the film sinks under the weight of a cast of untrained and mainly untalented newcomers. The pivotal role of Piggy Elites titters of embarrassment, and the mythical elements from the book — the flyblown boar's head, the 'monster' in the cave etc. Have little impact. As a result the powerful message of this classic will be lost on most of the audience.

The first half hour of the movie is more of a parody than a comedy, but once the fun starts, this black comedy has a frantic macabre pace of its own.

William Golding's novel 'Lord of the Flies' was first made into a movie in 1963, to a series of bad reviews and box office failure. Now Columbia have come out with a remake, which in spite of initial box office success, seems doomed to the same fate. The novel, which is compulsory reading in many school curricula, is a chilling but rather simplistic allegory about the animalistic nature of man — i.e. without certain controls and institutions, we would all revert to savages. The story finds a group of young boys from a military academy stranded on a desert island when their plane goes down. At first all goes well. One of the boys, Ralph, establishes an organized community where everyone is expected to perform specific tasks, but is allowed equal say as long as he has possession of a ceremonial conch shell. Soon though, the survivors tire of this routine, and Jack goes off to hunt wild boars and play increasingly violent war games with those boys who follow him. One by one they change sides to where the fun is, and gradually the rivalry between the two groups grows to savage proportions.

The above films are by courtesy of VFI, Fintas/Farwaniya; Video Nauf, Saliya Complex; and Video Club, Salmiya.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Nabia Wa Saleh: cartoon serial
9.40 Ifrah Ya Simsim
10.10 Good Morning
10.30 Ahtam Al Zahira: Arabic serial: part 6, featuring Majdi Wahba, Karima Mukhtar, Madiha Hamdi, Ibrahim Al Shami
11.15 News Summary
12.00 Al Raseef Al Barad: Arabic serial: part 6, featuring Mahmood Saeed, Shafiqah Al Tait, Fuad Al Shomili
1.30 Songs
1.30 Sanavar: cartoons serial
2.00 News summary
2.15 Ailab Bu Jassoum: Kuwaiti serial: ep. 6, featuring Hussain Qattan, Abdul Wahab Dosari, Moosa Al Hazim
3.00 Hadith, Deeni: Hadith wa Imaan. Religious programme.
3.35 Ailf Laila Wa Laila: part 2
4.00 Liqa Wa Khamis: weekly roundup of local news
5.30 Sally: cartoon serial
6.00 From Egypt to Kuwait
6.30 Sandook Al La'ab Kabir: children's programme
7.30 With Islam
8.15 From People's Lives
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Al Rajul Wal Qataar: Arabic serial
10.30 Mauqar Saddam: Arabic film. Starring: Athar Al Hakim, Hisham Abdul Hamid, Zahra Al Ula
12.00 Thursday Night Variety Show
1.15 News Summary
1.20 World News via Satellite
1.45 Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Nabia Wa Saleh: cartoon serial
9.50 Kharij Al Madrasah: part one

- 10.15 Songs
10.30 Al Rahla: children's serial: starring Safa Al Subei, Ahmad Abdul Wari
11.00 Ahadith Mauduwa
11.15 Friday Prayer
12.30 Colours
1.00 News summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.25 Hadith Deeni: Religious talk
2.00 Halaqat Tamteeliya: "Tanateef" Part one. Starring: Ghanem Slati, Huda Hussein, Abdul Aziz Al Jassim, Hailahum Bainahum: Arabic drama. Starring: Abdul Hussain Abdul Rida, Khalid Al Nafisi, Maryam Saleh, Ghanem Al Saleh
6.00 Water is Life: cultural programme
7.30 Kuwait in a Week
8.00 Multaki Al Usrah: cultural programme: part one
8.45 Hadith Usbooh: religious programme
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Al Rajul Wal Qataar: Arabic serial: ep. 12
10.30 Variety
12.00 News Summary
12.05 World News via Satellite
12.20 Holy Quran/Closedown

Sports Channel

Channel 8/45

- 3.35 UAE Message
4.30 International Sport News
5.55 World Cup: Yugoslavia vs Colombia (Live)
8.10 World Cup: Cameroon vs Romania (replaying)
9.55 World Cup: Italy vs USA (Live)

FRIDAY

- 3.30 Opening
4.00 World Sport News
6.00 World Cup: Austria vs Czechoslovakia
10.00 World Cup: West Germany vs USA

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Police Academy: cartoon

- 6.30 Mr Wizard's World: an educational programme for young viewers, focusses on magic, illusions and scientific experiments
7.00 Wild America: "Chimp-monks"
7.30 Munsters: Today: "Reunion" Herman has a difference of opinion with his brother. Lily tries to mediate. Comedy
8.00 News in English
8.40 New serial
9.30 Bill Cosby Show: "Denise Kendall: Singles Counsellor"
10.00 Just for the Record: record-breaking feats are captured on camera for this show
10.30 Thursday Night Movie: "Someone is Watching"
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Popeye and Son: cartoons
6.30 Family Feature Film: "Bon Voyage"
8.00 News in English
8.30 Breaking Away: a look at what's on in Kuwait
8.45 Globe TV: "A Ticket to the World": global television magazine show — looking at the global village
9.30 Weekend: tonight's show features an interview with Health Ministry Undersecretary Dr. Naef Naqabon the Kuwait Cancer Control Centre, also interview with Russian broadcaster
10.30 Take it from the morning side: a weekly magazine show
11.30 News in Brief
11.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that Kuwaiti television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

WHAT'S ON

Social

Irish reception
June 16: Saturday, SAS Hotel, 6-8 pm. All Irish nationals are invited to a reception which will be hosted in honour of the Irish foreign minister and Irish ambassador. They will be visiting Kuwait later this month. For details contact Marwan Salamah — 2402628/9; or Ms V. Al Mutawa — 5621701/5622701.

Sri Lankan meeting
June 14: The Sri Lankan embassy has arranged a meeting for Sri Lankans to hold talks with Labour Minister G.M. Premachandra and his accompanying delegation will be visiting Kuwait on June 13 and 14. All Sri Lankans who wish to meet the dignitaries are requested to come to the Sri Lankan embassy on Thursday, June 14, morning.

AUCB
June 15: 8 pm Hyatt Regency, Crystal Hall. Former students of American University in Cairo will hold annual gathering. The organising committee comprises Dr Lila Al Hajen, Nada Kolaibo, Maha Khaled, Ulfat Sharid, Tareq and Ayman Gargis. The proceeds will go toward charities in Kuwait and for the Palestinian children fund in Lebanon.

Fankar
June 15: Fankar Arts Group presents variety show at Indian Embassy Hall. The evening has

been organised in honour of Indian film director Moeen Amjad. Highlights include music by Edwin Dass Orchestra and Hindi skit by Anif Kazi.

Pakistanis Welfare Society
June 19: 5.30 pm. The monthly meeting of Pakistanis Welfare Society will be held at the residence of Liaquat Ali. Members are requested to come on time.

Festival on Ice
June 18-24: Ice Capades present Festival on Ice at the Ice Skating Rink. Two shows daily. Afternoon show features Barbie Doll. The evening show features figure skating champions and exhibition show. Twenty world class skaters promise family entertainment. For reservations Tel. 2530000/2533000

Pakistan Arts Circle membership campaign
June 30: The initial membership campaign of the Pakistan Arts Circle (veterans) will end on June 30 to prepare for elections of a new executive committee. All Pakistanis are invited to join the PAC by completing the membership form. PAC membership is open to any Pakistani wishing to join the group at any time. For details call: 5716388; 5631815; 4843578; 2414570.

Overseas students party
June 27: 6 pm. British Council will hold a reception for all students who will be studying in the UK this autumn. The party will be for all students who have

been offered a place at any university, polytechnic or college in Britain.

A set of briefing notes will be given to each student. Refreshments will be served. Students going to the UK are asked to call in to collect free admission cards from Kate or Lix in the Education Office, British Council, 2 Al Arabi St., Mansouriya.

D'Assisi Association celebrates 10th anniversary
Oct 4: Holy mass at 6.30 pm at the Holy Family Cathedral, Kuwait City, followed by a social at 8.30 pm at the Messiah Beach Hotel. For more details please contact Tel. No. 2469811/12 or 3717346 after 5.30 pm.

Hotels

At the Meridien
MANGO Festival: until June 14. At Fintas and Al Waha. La Brasserie Restaurant. Thai Corner: Saturday night. Cowboy Night: Every Sunday, with live country music. Chinese Corner: Monday night feature. Greek Taverna: Mediterranean magic with bousouki music. Indonesian corner: on Wednesdays: food prepared in front of you. Jazz Night: New Orleans atmosphere on Thursday night. Friday: Oriental luncheon buffet: family day.

At the Holiday Inn
Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop, breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets — Continental and Oriental cuisine.

At the Plaza
Al Dallah Coffee Shop: international cuisine: open buffet plus menu.

At the Plaza
Lofowah Corner: snacks and refreshing summer drinks. Marco Polo Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

Versailles: Business lunch; and a la carte dinner.

At Ramada Al Salam
Al Bender Coffee Shop: Arabic and Continental buffets, lunch and dinner; also a la carte; open 6 am to midnight.

Al Mawardi Open-Air Cafe
open from 6 pm to midnight. Al Gandouli Grill Garden: open after 6 pm; grilled food.

Friday brunch: 12 noon to 3 pm
ship discovery tour, entertainment for children and cartoon-strip characters.

At the Messiah Beach
Al Mubarakiah: open around the clock; seafood promotion on Wednesdays, 7 pm; Fridays — Middle Eastern cuisine.

Al Jawharah
Thursday special — special menu: music by Rainbow Band.

Al Berdowneh
BBQ on Thursday in beach-garden restaurant; Lebanese food.

At the Holiday Inn
Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop, breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets — Continental and Oriental cuisine.

Al Andalus Supper Club
Arabic Nite, every Thursday: Arabic band entertains guests.

Friday Family Lunch
Disney fantasy on Fridays.

At the Plaza
Al Dallah Coffee Shop: international cuisine: open buffet plus menu.

At the Plaza
Lofowah Corner: snacks and refreshing summer drinks.

Marco Polo
Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.

At the SAS
Bistretto: Sunday/Wednesday — pasta night; Italian music. Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner.

Al Boom
Kuwaiti experience; charcoal grilled food, plus mezzeh buffet. Clock: snack bar — burgers, french fries, etc.

Music

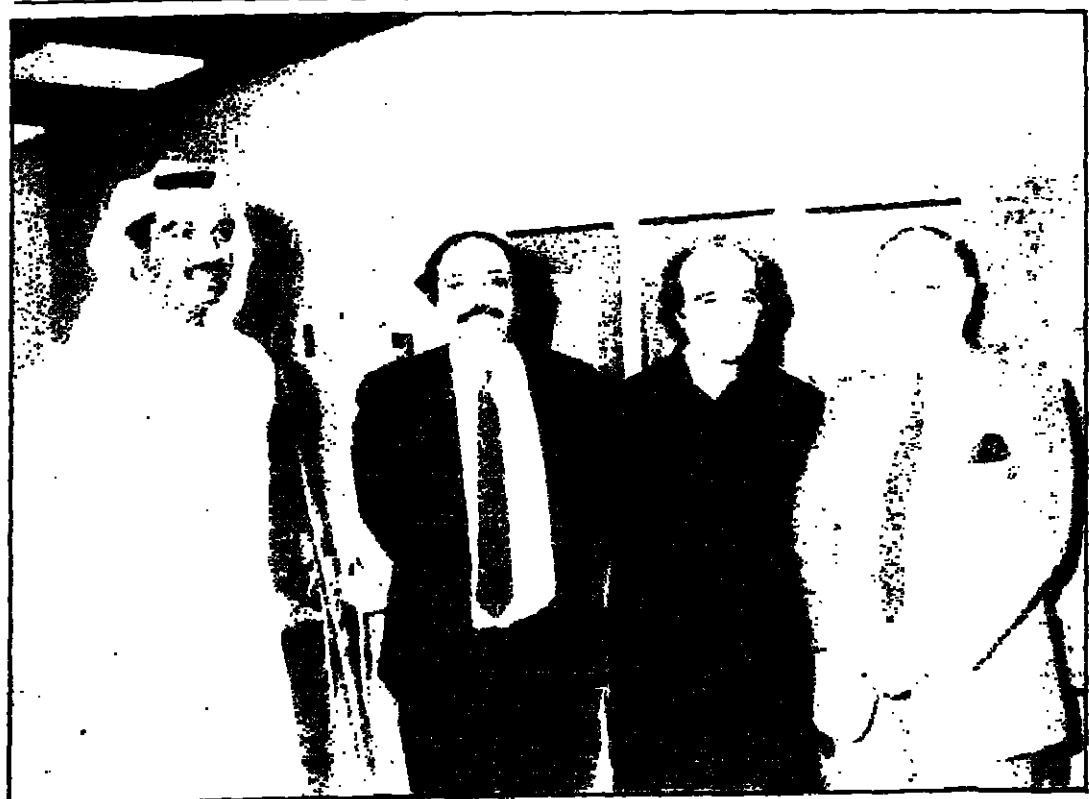
Murchana
June 15: Murchana, a musical evening featuring Bengali, Hindi and semi-classical songs at Meridien Hotel. For reservations call 5640389 after 5.30 pm; 4893424.

Theatre

Konkani play
June 15: 5 pm. IAC, Funaites. The K.C.W.A. will perform a Konkani play *The Maka Naka*. Gate passes now available. For details contact Charles Vas — Tel. 4312952.

Cinema

British Council
June 16/17: 6.30 pm. "84 Charing Cross Road", a universally acclaimed film based on the true story of Helene Hanff (Anne Bancroft) will be shown. It tells the story of a 20-year love affair with the staff of a second-hand bookshop. For reservations call 2515512; 2533204; 2533227.



Noted Pakistani artist in Kuwait

Noted Pakistani artist Gulgee discussed his work at a slide show-cum-lecture organised by the Boushahr Gallery on Tuesday. Learning art from great masters, Gulgee expresses through paint or sculpts a point he has to make. An artist of world repute, he paints, sketches, and makes sculptures. He is said to be a talented mosaic artist. His mosaics and murals are spread across the world. His portrait of Ronald Reagan was Pakistan's official gift to the former president of US. Above: Gulgee (second right) with Pakistan Ambassador Zaheed Saeed and guests at Tuesday's presentation.

PRAYERS		FRIDAY	
Fajr	3.13 am	Fajr	3.13 am
Dhuhr	11.48	Friday Prayer	11.48
Asr	3.22 pm	Asr	3.22 pm
Maghreb	6.49	Maghreb	6.49
Isha	8.21	Isha	8.21

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SATURDAY 16 JUNE FROM 9 TO 12.30 AM
IN THE GRAND STORE FAHAHEEL
SATURDAY 16 JUNE FROM 4.30 TO 9 PM
IN THE GRAND STORES KUWAIT
SUNDAY 17 JUNE FROM 9 TO 12.30 AM
IN MARKEZ AL-SAMAH SALMIYA

SUNDAY 17 JUNE FROM 4.30 TO 9 PM
IN MARKEZ AL-SAMAH NOGREH AL-SHAMALI
MONDAY 18 JUNE FROM 9 TO 12.30 AM
IN ROKON AL-JAMAL
MONDAY 18 JUNE FROM 4.30 TO 9 PM
IN DIAHYET ABDULLA AL-SALEM CO-OP

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Saudis launch shipping fleet

BAHRAIN, June 13. (Reuters): Saudi Arabia has launched a new shipping fleet to transport its petrochemicals to world markets, a senior shipping official said today.

Mohammed Al Jarbous, chief executive of the kingdom's National Shipping Co (NSC), said the first of a fleet of nine newly-purchased chemical carriers left the Gulf port of Jubail yesterday with a cargo of methanol for Europe.

Saudi Arabia's national chemical carriers (NCC) bought the vessel — the 23,016 dead-weight tonne (DWT) NCC Al-Baha — and eight other ships from Norway's Stori Shipping Group for \$215.6 million, he said.

NSC took an 80 per cent stake in NCC when it was formed with a paid-in capital of \$200 million last March.

Saudi Basic Industries Corp (Sabic), the kingdom's giant industrial conglomerate, took the remaining 20 per cent.

"These chemical carriers will help diversify our business and will make it more economical to transport Saudi petrochemical and other liquid products," he said.

Previously all of the Gulf's current annual exports of around nine million tonnes of ethylene, methanol and urea were carried by foreign ships.

Industry experts have said the six states within the Gulf Cooperation Council — who are spending billions of dollars to expand their petrochemical output — should form their own fleets to cut down on transport costs.

The GCC groups Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

Jarbous said the new ships, with a total capacity of 250,000 dead-weight tonnes, would continue to fly the Norwegian flag and would join a pool operated by Norway's Odifell carrying petrochemicals and other liquid products globally.

Odifell, a subsidiary of Stori, would operate and manage the vessels. The remaining eight are due to arrive in Saudi Arabia this month.

NSC made a net profit of \$71 million in 1989, up from \$59 million the previous year.

Business in Bahrain gets a boost

ZURICH, June 13. (Kuna): Business in Bahrain has received a boost since the end of the Iran-Iraq war and there has been a marked upturn in the island's economy, the International Herald Tribune reported today.

In a three-page supplement, the IHT carried an in-depth focus on Bahrain, covering the industrial prospects, the confidence of the financial sector, and developments in the telecommunications and tourism sectors.

According to Yousuf A. Shirazi, Minister of Development and Industry, about \$800 million worth of new projects are currently on. They include a liquid petroleum gas plant, a polypropylene plant, a urea plant and a gas-fired power station.

Another immediate investment of \$2.6 billion was under examination. Already, \$1 billion had been spent in the last six years, and current annual spending until 1995 was estimated at \$60 million.

Cheap energy in the form of natural gas has enabled the government, whose oil income was only \$650 million in the last full financial year, to establish several major capital-intensive industries.

Iran drains money from economy under IMF guidance

DUBAI, June 13. (Reuters): Guided by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Iran is trying hard to drain away vast amounts of cash which are sending inflation ever higher.

The technocrats who head Iran's key ministries face grim problems — a currency no one wants, dormant industries, farms that do not farm and an Islamic ideology antagonistic to many of the available Western-style economic cures.

Until now, their concern has tended to focus on the vast gap between the official and free market values of the rial.

But it is the volume of rials in the economy that is the real problem, IMF sources say.

Iran, for the first time since the

Islamic revolution 10 years ago, has been talking to the IMF and World Bank about borrowing. And an IMF team has visited the country.

The sources said the IMF had asked Iran to control its money supply to bring down inflation, and strengthen the currency as a prerequisite for IMF funding.

They said the government appeared to have accepted. The issue now is how fast the controls can be implemented before internal strains break breaking point and the economy collapses.

The key questions are how much money there is in the economy, how much has been taken out, and how much more can the government afford to remove.

Official figures give a loose estimate of 25 trillion rials in the economy. Because everyone holds cash, this amount includes money in circulation and bank operational balances with the Central Bank, roughly equivalent to most European measures of narrow money supply.

Last week, Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said that if Iran did borrow from abroad, he thought it best to draw from its own funds held at the IMF.

Rafsanjani also said that Iran's inflation was due to too much cash in people's hands, and too few goods in the market.

He noted that his government had managed to take two trillion rials out of

the economy since it came to power a year ago.

The government's ability to drain more money depends on how much hard cash it has in its official reserves, and how much it expects to receive in foreign exchange revenues each year.

Independent economists estimate reserves, excluding gold, currently total about \$5 billion.

Government officials predict as much as \$17.8 billion in hard currency earnings in the year starting March 21.

But economists believe this is optimistic, given recent low oil prices on which Iran depends for 90 per cent of total hard currency revenues. Iran this week received about \$12 per barrel for its oil, down from around \$15 in March.

Out of these earnings, analysts estimate Iran must pay around \$3 billion a year for food imports. The country must also find funds to pay for unknown amounts for armaments, large investment programmes, and significant leakage through corruption.

The 1989-93 five-year plan envisages \$19 billion of foreign exchange spending, or \$23.8 billion a year.

Iranian economists agree that the first task is to rescue the rial, but they are pessimistic.

On Monday, the Central Bank, which last week ruled out official devaluation as an option, announced its third scheme in a year to raise the value of the rial from its current internal free market rate of 1,400 to the dollar, a

record low. The bank said it would quote a new, as yet unspecified rate from next week at which all Iranian companies could buy foreign exchange for imports and exports.

Foreigners are still legally obliged to change money at the bank rate of 70 rials to the dollar.

An existing regulation allows selected firms to exchange at 800 rials to the dollar. The economists said the Central Bank might make some impact if it pegged the new rate at around 1,200 rials. But they say any such move as a short-term tactic to gain breathing space.

"They have not got the reserves to back up intervention like this over a long period," said one economist.

First step in price reforms

Theory of market economy approved

MOSCOW, June 13. (Agencies): The Soviet parliament approved the principle of a transition to a regulated market economy today but voting on a separate measure to triple bread prices was postponed until Thursday because it met such strong opposition.

The resolution approving the concept of a move from a centrally planned economy toward a modified market system also ordered the government to come up with a more specific programme of reforms by September.

Today's parliament session began with legislators rejecting Supreme Soviet chairman Anatoly Lukyanov's effort to push the 7-point resolution on the transition to a market economy through in one vote.

Members of the Supreme Soviet later went through the resolution point by point, and after a day of discussion and votes approved the document on the principles for market reforms.

The resolution said the transition to a market economy would be the main part of the country's economic reform, and ordered the Council of Ministers to present a concrete plan for the move when the Supreme Soviet reconvenes Sept 1.

Today's resolution also gave Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev the power to issue decrees effective Aug 1 that temporarily implement already-passed laws on property, lease arrangements, local self-government and local administration of the economy.

After the parliament approved the concept of a move toward a market economy, they took up a separate resolution that would triple prices for bread and bread products as a first step in price reforms.

Furious opposition from deputies demanding that the local parliaments in each of the 15 Soviet republics also approve



Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov takes the floor to answer deputies' questions during a heated debate at the Supreme Soviet yesterday on a controversial economic reform package due to bring market economy to the Soviet Union. (Top left is Gorbachev's chief economic adviser Leonid Abalkin). (Reuters wirephoto)

the price hikes forced Lukyanov to postpone a planned vote on the measure until Thursday.

The resolution on bread prices called for the central government to consult the local governments about the increase and plans to compensate low-income residents for the higher prices, but it did not give the republics veto power over the increase.

A proposed resolution offered by the deputies' spokesman Alexei Boiko — and which the Communist Party daily Pravda

reported today Gorbachev had already approved — gave the government till September 1 to present an overall plan.

It also said Gorbachev should issue temporary decrees to be implemented from July 1 to start setting in place key aspects of the reform, including new laws on property, land leasing, banking and small industry.

"We have to act quickly. Time will not wait. The situation in our economy is getting worse every day," Boiko told the Supreme

Soviet.

A second resolution, also likely to be adopted, expressed total support for the government's proposal to increase bread prices, linked to 100 per cent monetary compensation for the rises.

But it dropped the date of July 1 for the rises to begin. First deputy prime minister and state planning chief Yuri Maslyukov told reporters the planned increases were likely to go into effect on August 1.

US retail sales slump

WASHINGTON, June 13. (AP): US retail sales slumped 0.7 per cent in May, posting their first three-month decline since the last recession in 1981, the government said today.

The Commerce Department said sales decreased to a seasonally adjusted \$146.84 billion from \$147.93 billion in April.

After remaining unchanged in February, retail sales fell a revised 0.4 per cent in March and 0.9 per cent in April. That was worse than the 0.3 per cent decline first reported for March and the 0.6 per cent dip in April.

Many economists had expected a slight improvement in sales in May.

It was the first time since September, October and November 1981 that retail sales had fallen for three straight months.

Retail sales represent about half of consumer spending, which has been a driving force for the economy during much of the last eight years. Overall, consumer spending accounts for about two-thirds of the nation's economic activity.

Retail sales had jumped 2.8 per cent in January when automobile purchases spurred after cash rebates and low-interest financing were restored to attract buyers.

Each of the automakers continues to offer incentives, but fewer cars are covered as companies try to wean consumers from the profit-eroding practice.

Commerce said automobiles slipped 0.6 per cent in May following a 1.6 per cent drop in April. Through May 31, car sales had dropped 10.3 per cent over the comparable period of 1989, manufac-

turers reported last week.

Excluding autos, retail sales were off 0.8 per cent in May after dropping 0.7 per cent in April and 0.6 per cent in March.

The manufacturing sector including the automobile industry has been dampened by Federal Reserve efforts to restrain credit to avoid overheating the economy and thus fuelling inflation.

Economists also question the effect of a slowing job market and declining consumer confidence on future retail sales.

Most recent job gains reflected temporary government hiring of census workers, while employment losses continued at factories and in the construction industry.

Economists will be watching for Thursday's business inventory report to see whether any drawdown would be sufficient to increase production and thus create more jobs.

Sales of durable goods — usually costly items like automobiles which are expected to last at least three years — fell 1.1 per cent in May after dropping 1.7 per cent in April.

A survey focussing only on the country's largest chain department stores shows sales had generally been sluggish in May because of colder-than-normal temperatures and unusually heavy rainfall in some areas.

Gasoline sales were off 1.6 per cent after falling 1.9 per cent in April.

For the three months from March through May, overall retail sales were off 0.3 per cent.

Profit rise for Cable and Wireless

LONDON, June 13. (Reuters): International telecommunications group Cable and Wireless PLC today reported a 25 per cent jump in pre-tax profit for the last financial year to \$277 million (\$899 million).

That compared with £420 million (\$716 million) a year earlier and was on turnover 51 per cent higher at £2.32 billion (\$3.95 billion) in the year to March 31.

Share analysts said they were pleased by a sharp increase in trading profit from the London-based company's Mercury Communications PLC subsidiary, the only rival to the former public monopoly British Telecommunications PLC.

Mercury made a £49 million (\$83 million) profit, up from £18 million (\$30 million) a year earlier.

"There was a pleasing performance from Mercury. Its profit contribution was well ahead of expectations," said Patrick Hickey, an analyst at brokerage Henderson Crosthwaite.

C and W shares jumped 16 pence (27 cents) to a high of £5.75 (\$9.80) in morning trading but fell back to £5.62 (\$9.60) by noon trading.

Bid to attract investments

Third World must work harder

BONN, June 13. (Reuters): Reforms sweeping Eastern Europe will divert investment away from developing countries and force Third World governments to revamp their economic systems, the president of the World Bank said today.

"They (developing nations) must work harder to attract investments or money will go to Eastern Europe," Barber Conable told a news briefing.

The World Bank, the world's most important multilateral development agency, lent \$23 billion last year.

But Conable stressed that the private sector was crucial for providing cash to modernise Third World economies.

"And this goes where the most attractive opportunities are," he said. The World Bank has consistently argued against Third World nations running centrally planned economies which discourage private investment.

Conable said the bank was not turning its back on the poorer regions like Africa. But he said it had a global responsibility.

"Eastern Europe is as entitled to participate in (the bank's activities) as any other part of the world."



Barber Conable

On Tuesday, at a meeting of West German industrialists, Conable said the World Bank expected to lend \$7.5 billion to Eastern Europe over the next three years.

Included in this amount is at least \$2.5 billion to Poland and about the same amount to Hungary and Yugoslavia.

Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia have also recently applied for membership of the World Bank and Conable told reporters they would join by September when the bank holds its annual meeting.

But these additional members would not force a cut in the bank's commitment to the

world's poorest countries.

Loan volume has grown 10 per cent annually in recent years and this could continue as additional needs arise, he said.

He welcomed the newly created European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), viewing it as an ally and not a competitor. The World Bank already works closely with a number of other regional development banks.

Conable said he plans to meet with the EBRD's president, Jacques Attali of France, on Thursday in Paris to discuss future co-operation.

Conable wants the annual economic summit of the world's seven biggest industrial nations, this year being hosted by President George Bush in Houston in July, to come up with new ways to deal with the large debts of middle-income countries, such as Ivory Coast and Cameroon.

Western governments agreed in 1988 to write off or to extend debts owed by the world's poorest countries, but Conable believed that some richer third world nations also needed to have their loan repayment periods stretched.

Bombay Stock Exchange prices

	(Rs) June 13, 90		
Pr. Close	Open	Close	
ACC	489	489	487
Alum Chem	—	—	—
Alu Nis	—	—	—
Ani Fab	—	—	—
Asht Leky	237.50	236.25	230
Asia Paint	77	76	75
Atlas Cop	35	35	35
Auto Corp	67.50	64	67.50
Nat Index	422.76	440	440
Bajaj Auto	466.25	463.75	465
Bar Rayon	883.75	880	872.50
Blow Plast	—	—	—
Bom Dye	226	224.50	223
BK Bond	114.50	113	114
Burl Weir	62.50	60	65
Canshare	—	—	—
Cen Enka	3470	3460	3430
Can Sng	3470	3460	3430
Colgate	218.75	216.25	218.75
Cromi Gr	25.50	24	25
DCM	30.50	29.50	29
Deep Fert	61	59	61
Dunlop	58.50	58	58.50
El Hotels	94.50	94	94.50
Escorts	787.36	131.25	131.25
Eskayes	130	131.25	131.25
Essar Sng	35.25	35.25	35.50

Bombay shares

Food Spl	115	115	113.75	Lipton	80	75	76
Forbes	20.25	20.25	20.25	Mas-Rusmi	113	106.75	110.50
Genl Pk	44	43.75	44.50	Milford	135	130	135.50
GL Indus	98.50	97.50	97.50	Muk-Lad	217.50	215	220
GNFC	196.25	197.50	195	Muk-Lad	137.50	131.50	130
Gemina	124	124.50	124.75	Nat Org	1280	1270	1260
GE Sng	196.25	197.50	195	Nippon	35.50	35.50	34.50
GH Indus	87.50	85.50	87	Orkla	6.25	57.50	57.50
GH Heavy	16.50	15	15.50	Oswal Agro	24.25	33	34
Hero Honda	22.50	22	22.50	P&G	86.50	86	87
Hind Cbe	340	330	335	Ponds	234	233	234
Hind Lever	119.50	118.50	119.50	Prem Auto	57.50	57.50	57.50
Hind Motor	32.25	32	30.50	Ranbaxy	98	96	98
Hindlud	276.25	275	276.25	Ray Wool	89	89	89.50
Hoechst	1700	1680	1690	Rediffm	213	212.50	213
Ingersoll	220	220	225	Reliance	63.50	63	62.50
ITC	77	76.50	77	Sena Goa	88	86	88
Ind Org	92	88.50	88.50				
Ind Rayon	108	107	107.50				
Indrol	230	231.25	232.50				
JK Sng	57.50	56.50	57.50				
Kia Engg	163.75	161.25	63				
Kia Comm	80	79	78				
KSB Pumps	190	180	190				
L & T	69.50	71	69				

Compiled by Kwaite-India International Exchange Co.

Grindlays launches second India Investment Fund

ANZ GRINDLAYS is launching the second India Investment Fund for subscription by non-resident Indians, institutions and others. The fund will invest principally in Indian news issues and those of established expanding companies.

The second fund of \$20 million will follow in the tracks of the successful first fund which ANZ Grindlays sponsored in 1987 in a joint venture with 31 PLC, the leading British risk capital financier. The fund has been progressively invested over the past two years and is now almost fully committed to carefully selected, strongly growing companies. At Dec 31, 1989, \$5 million of investments had been made in new and expanding Indian companies, the value of which had grown to \$8.6 million. The first fund picked up sizeable holdings in India Glycols, Essar Gujarat, Chokhani International (in which Keppel Corporation, the leading Singaporean ship repairer, has a 25 per cent stake), Samtel Colour and Indian Maize & Chemicals.

Explaining the investment policy of the fund managers, Roger Cottrell (who is directing investment of the funds from Delhi) said that their approach to the professional management of the funds was unique, involving a comprehensive investigative approach to each investment opportunity and on-the-spot meetings with management and industry experts.

"ANZ Grindlays' initiative in working with the Indian financial institutions and other merchant banks has provided access to a good flow of worthwhile investment openings. "The new issues market is the niche that offers exceptional returns," said Roger Cottrell. "But only for those who have the connections and skills to sort out the plums from the lemons. Our aim is to provide NRIs with this expertise and to take out all the hassle for them of investment in the Indian market."

The fund managers have now achieved a significant breakthrough in the evolution of a highly tax efficient formula for the

launch of the second fund. Taking advantage of a recently concluded double tax treaty between India and the Netherlands, the second India Investment Fund will offer investors for the first time the prospect of higher net returns that could be achieved by individual investment. Under this structure, the fund will not pay any capital gains tax in India, and, as a result of an attractive ruling obtained from the Netherlands tax authorities, the managers have projected that the overall rate of tax on the net profits of the fund will be approximately 10 per cent, which is half the rate NRIs normally suffer on capital profits.

The new fund opens for subscription on 15 June and will be for a minimum of 1,000 shares at \$10.30 each (inclusive of the initial management charge), but this is payable in three instalments, \$3.50 per share on application and \$3.40 each one year and two years later. While the fund will not be officially quoted, the managers

plan to arrange a limited market in the shares when they become fully paid. Annual distributions will be made of income and realised capital profits and the fund will be redeemed in June 1993.

"Investors have often had only limited success in handling their own new issue applications. We see the fund forming part of a balanced portfolio for NRI investors," said Roger Cottrell, "representing the part they are prepared to lock away to achieve long term appreciation. We certainly foresee some excellent growth prospects."

ANZ Grindlays will hold a launch presentation at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel on June 16, 1990, at 7.30 pm. Contact can be made with either Roger Cottrell, Yuvraj Narain or John Cartwright from June 15 at the hotel.

The fund has two NRI directors from Kuwait namely K. V. Mohan Menon and Kulkdeep Singh Lamba. K. V. Mohan Menon is also a director of the India Investment Fund (first fund).

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Video reviews

Inspiring tales

By Jack E. Wilkinson

● **MY LEFT FOOT** — the story of Christy Brown is an inspiring tale of one man's victory over enormous odds. Christy was born to a poor Irish family, saddled with a body so twisted by cerebral palsy that he could control only his left foot. But, with remarkable will and drive, and the support of his large family, Christy taught himself to sketch and write, ultimately seeing his paintings exhibited and his autobiography make him a celebrity. In his physically demanding, Oscar-winning performance, Daniel Day-Lewis portrays Christy as fiercely competitive, slowed but not stowed by his handicap, a sassy, plucky man ever ready for a brawl or a bottle to pity. The acting throughout is first rate and Brenda Fricker, who played Christy's mom, also won an Oscar.

1989, 103 minutes. HBO Video. Rated R. KD3.000, available at local video shops.

● **Always**, a glowing romantic fantasy ignited by the Spielberg touch. This luxurious remake of the '43 warmer *A Guy Named Joe* is about a guy named Pete and the battleground this time is flaming. Timberland. Pete (Richard Dreyfuss) is a daredevilish aerial fire-fighter who dies while saving his buddy Al (John Goodman), then comes back to help girlfriend Dorinda (Holly Hunter) get on with her life. Ostensibly, he's the designated guardian angel for another young hotshot pilot (Brad Johnson), who has a crush on Dorinda, but his real mission, like it or not, is to get the two of them together. Directed by Steven Spielberg, the film is both a tender, well-crafted love story and a robust adventure. In the more harrowing moments, planes zoom through walls of fire in an effort to get low enough for an effective flame-killing chemical strike without getting

sucked into the inferno. 1989, 100 minutes. MCA-Universal Home Video. In letterbox format. Rated PG. KD3.00 at local video shops.

● **Tango And Cash** — Sylvester Stallone and Kurt Russell play rival "supercops" forced to work together when framed for murder by a notorious mobster (Jack Palance). Stallone drops his Rambo image, for now, to play dapper, methodical Ray Tango, who dabbles in the stock market and works out of Beverly Hills. Russell is the scruffy one this time out, as Gabe Cash, a long-haired, funky-dressed, volatile downtown cop. Thrown together in prison where Palance's cohorts wait to kill them, the boys have to team up to break out and, after much per-flexing and boyish banter, storm the crime lord's stronghold with predictable results. It's a fast-paced action flick, but the action is often sophomoric and unreal. 1989, 104 minutes. Warner Home Video. Rated R. DKD3

Billboard's top 10 rentals

1. *Look Who's Talking* — RCA-Columbia Home Video
2. *Sea Of Love* — MCA-Universal Home Video
3. *Black Rain* — Paramount Home Video
4. *The Little Mermaid* — Walt Disney Home Video
5. *Dead Poets Society* — Touchstone Home Video
6. *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation* — Warner Home Video
7. *Harlem Nights* — Paramount Home Video
8. *Sex, Lies And Videotapes* — RCA-Columbia Home Video
9. *Back To The Future II* — MCA-Universal Home Video
10. *The Abyss* — CBS-Fox Video



Kabir Bedi and Farha in *Haar Jeet*: plagued by guilt

Indian Cinema

Bollywood follies

Copiers stumped

Firoze Rangoonwalla
Arab Times correspondent

THE fascination of Hollywood films attracts several Indian directors to copy American movies nearly scene by scene. But they are stumped by the compulsion of giving good or bad image to the different characters played by touchy stars. And there is the dilemma of how to end the film, on a happy or a sad note.

Such a dilemma was faced in those Indian films (Hindi and Tamil) which tried to plagiarise the popular American film *Fatal Attraction*. In Bombay, at least two directors jumped on to the triangular bandwagon. Mahesh Bhatt with *Jurm* and Avtar Bhogal with *Haar Jeet*. Now both films are ready for release, but the compromises show.

In *Jurm*, Vinod Khanna plays the much man married to Meenakshi Sheshadri and is attracted by Sangeeta Bijlani. The romance sees ups and downs and causing upheavals and disrupting family life resulting an emotional conflict. But writer

Salim Khan and director Mahesh Bhatt could not decide what to do with Bijlani's character. She is now a star in her own right. She cannot be a vamp who fights for her man, and have an illicit relationship, stoop to the level of hurting, killing or being killed. Bijlani won't accept such characterisation, while Sheshadri smugly plays the good wronged wife.

Similar hitches came in the way of *Haar Jeet*, where Kabir Bedi and Madhvi lead a happy married life with their son, when the fatal attraction comes in the form of Farha. Kabir plays an army officer who is put in charge of Farha's security when she is threatened by a revenge-seeking terrorist, Anupam Kher. Body-guarding turns into body language and a mutual rapport leads to the bedroom. And she becomes pregnant.

Kabir is tormented by fear and guilt, especially when Madhvi learns about the affair and storms out of the house. Farha insists on staying with him but he avoids her. He even seeks a transfer. Meanwhile, there is the

famous woman-to-woman clash scene, when Madhvi and Farha happen to meet. The other woman claims her rights while the wife firmly refuses. At this point the plot is side-lined to focus on the terrorist and his violent attempts to kidnap Kabir's wife and child. In the action climax, there are many killings, including Farha's noble sacrifice.

Once again, Farha being a star, in fact a bigger one than Bijlani, cannot be dubbed as a total vamp. So from home-breaker she becomes a martyr. In *Fatal Attraction*, the other woman, who is mentally deranged, remains vicious till the end. She fights, snatches, torments the family, kills a pet rabbit, kidnaps the child makes determined attempts to murder the man as well as his wife, in the process she meets a gory death. Foreign artists try to impress with their enactment of a character and not by a portraying a good image. But Indian films cannot go that far and stars don't tread an image-breaking path. Then why copy such films?



Vinod Khanna and Sangeeta Bijlani in a scene from director Mahesh Bhatt's *Jurm*, inspired by *Fatal Attraction*.

Stars take up public causes

The Bombay stars seems to have taken their social work rather seriously, as recent events show. One is their campaign against drug addiction and peddling. They have not wasted time after the big show, Life 90. Street corner meetings are held regularly at different places, though the presence of stars is not consistent. For example, Poonam, Padmini and Jaya Bachchan who led earlier meetings are nowhere to be seen.

At a fairly big public meeting held at Gowalia Tank Maidan, stars like Shatrughan Sinha, Jeetendra, Dimple and Meenakshi Sheshadri made quite an impression with their passionate pleas. The public also took it in the right spirit. They listened to the stars without heckling or passing lewd remarks. The only silly moment was when Jeetendra's daughter, who is growing fat, so I will promise to give up chocolates, if you people promise to give up

drugs. A peace march against communal conflicts was taken out by the Ekta Committee, comprising trade unions and leftist thinkers and artists. Film folks included Shabana Azmi, A.K. Hangal, Sayeed Mirza, and Anand Patwardhan. They went in predominantly Muslim areas, where Shabana shouted at the top of her voice: "This symbolically says that our country is being torn as under by communal forces. Politicians are promoting communalism. They see riots only as a law and order problem."

The cars of Shabana and Hangal crawled behind them, along the route. Once the speeches were over, they exited quietly. At the end of the day hardly a few volunteers were left to lead the lonely way to Thane. Any way, the stars felt that they had aroused the collective conscience by their appearance.



Trio: Jeetendra, Dimple and Meenakshi are in the forefront

Bono takes up political challenge

By Chris Jones

BONO, leading light of the supergroup U2, has been offered the starring role in a film about the Vietnam War, the first to be shot in the country since the end of hostilities.

It will be made by Vietnam survivor Louis Cimino and is based on his own experiences. The Vietnamese authorities have invited him to make the first feature film since the war on Vietnamese soil. And so the anti-war play that Cimino wrote his first-ever script for a group of unknown actors in a humble theatre is now one of Hollywood's hottest properties, under the title *Fragging*.

Since the Vietnamese Government chose Cimino instead of all the big moviemakers a war movie on its actual location, tycoons have been fighting each other for a slice of the action.

The title, *Fragging*, comes from the slang for soldiers killing their own officers with fragmentation bombs and mines. There were an estimated 800 gragings in Vietnam.

Bono is no stranger to the world's political hot-spots. The multimillion-pound rock star has taught English in Ethiopia and dodged bullets in El Salvador.

The rocker from Dublin said: "In El Salvador, I was on my way to a village when it was bombed. It scared me witless. I didn't know which way to run. They were mortaring the village and there were fighters overhead."

And in Ethiopia, he taught locals English and about vital hygiene through a series of songs and short plays.

Bono has never been afraid to challenge the politicians and many of his songs encapsulate his ideals. One of the band's greatest hits, *Pride*, was a celebration of the life of Martin Luther King, the civil rights campaigner. King's widow, Coretta telephoned Bono in the States to thank U2 for "causing a stink" in Arizona, which had refused to honour King Day as a public holiday.

But Bono is disillusioned with the political status quo. He said: "I'm sick of the Right, I'm sick of the Left, sick of Lenin, Marx, Reaganomics..."

"Most of all, I'm sick of the middle. 'We need a new dream... we have new problems, we need new solutions. But where are the new dreamers?'"

His idealism was highlighted at the Live Aid concert at Wembley in 1985, when U2 stole the show and officially became a supergroup. The band's two albums since, *The Joshua Tree* and *Rattle and Hum*, have gone platinum and were No 1 hits for weeks worldwide.

The business of having hit after hit and touring the world has its ups and downs. Bono said: "All of us in the band are just addicted to the adrenalin we get from performing. The bigger and better the performance, the worse we are the next day because I can't sleep after them, especially these outdoor things. 'The only choice is to down a whole bottle of wine and even that wears off after a while. Anyway, if you do that every night of the week, you end up looking absolutely terrible all the time.'"

But the group is determined not to be labelled as megastars. "We're very much the antithesis of those

big rock 'n' roll bands," said Bono.

For years U2 hated the idea of playing big halls and instead kept close contact with their fans in clubs and theatres.

Bono recalled: "When we were on Top of the Pops even for the second time, we had to get the bus home." Now, of course, it is all very different.

Bono was born Paul Hewson 29 years ago to a Catholic postal worker father and Protestant mother in Dublin. When he was 14, his mother died. The tragedy devastated him and he later wrote a song called *Mother*. In it, he says: "Won't you come back tomorrow?"

His mother's death made him closer to his father Bob, who even now helps keep his son's feet on the ground. After the concert, Bob heard Bono swear at a member of the road crew. Father faced over to give Son a ticking-off and a blushing Bono was forced to apologise to the roadie.

U2 was formed at Bono's comprehensive school when drummer Larry Mullen Jr put a note on the noticeboard for band members. Adam Clayton and Dave Evans answered, as well as Bono, and the lineup has stayed the same.

When Bono was 22 he married Alyson, his childhood sweetheart. She accompanied him to Ethiopia and Central America. The pair have a baby daughter Jordan, born in May 1989.

But success has taken its toll on his private life. He said: "All money has done is remove me from my friends and family, and I end up going back to my hotel room, which is almost a prison cell."

"My private life is a mess. When I'm home, I'm not at home. I come in when Alyson's going out. We have a stormy relationship because she is her own woman."

And he feels uneasy with fame. "I am not a very good pop star. I don't feel like a pop star and I don't look like one."

And he is disparaging of some other rock stars. He said: "The one-night-stand scene is sick. I find all the sexual abuse of naive people who are turned on by their idols' music absolutely horrific."

Yet Bono has had indulgences of his own on a grand scale like house-hunting by helicopter. He is now the owner of a nine-bedroom, Victorian property set in three acres at Killiney, Eire. Life at his Martello Tower home had proved a trifle difficult with teenage fans ever on the doorstep.

But success for Bono is a self-fulfilling prophecy. In 1981 he said: "I don't mean to sound arrogant, but even at this stage I do feel that we are meant to be one of the great groups."

"There's a certain spark, a certain chemistry, that was special about the Rolling Stones, The Who and the Beatles — and I think it is also there with U2."

"So if people come along expecting the world from U2, don't worry they're going to get it. I'm not scared that we won't be able to give it to them it's what we are here for."

And U2's mission is an all-encompassing thing for Bono. He said: "We're a band of dreamers and idealists. I can't separate music from the rest of my life, from my beliefs it's all wrapped into one. It is my life."



Bono stole the show at Live Aid.

Star slips

Mala Sinha: "My daughter Pratibha (Dingy) is misfit in today's industry. She is only interested in roles like *Umrao Jaan* and *Jhanak Pahal Baag*." Now where do they make films like that?

Amitabh Bachchan: "I feel so sorry for the poor guy Anil Kapoor. It's like he is sitting on the throne while I am holding the crown."

Sahra Agha: "The real turn in my acting singing career will come

after *Pari Patti Aur Tawaif* and my powerful role and songs in it."

Sunjay Dutt: "Rajesh Khanna is a sick-old man. He is always bad-mouthing me. I'll kick him — when I see him. You tell him that. And it's not because of Tina anymore. It's something personal he has against me."

Anil Sharma: "I hate violence. But I make violent films because the cinegoers like it."



Mithun Chakraborty: demands

● Industry people now murmur that the "great split" between Laxmikant and Pyarelal was only a publicity stunt for the music duo, who could not hit the headlines any other way. This way their music was praised as leading trade mags, pleaded with them not to part and remember the "wonderful" songs they had created together. So, soon enough they patched up. Meanwhile many people were taken for a ride. Actually, they say that the tiff at a foreign stage-show between Laxmi-Pyarel was a trivial matter. And Pyarelal did not attend some recordings in Bombay because he had a bad

Behind the screen

● Some trade wags say that the timing of Rekha's marriage was a well-aimed stunt. Rekha the shrewd show-woman wanted to be in the news at the time of the release of her films. And look at the line-up. *Bahurani* and *Anuri Garibi* were being released, while *Insaaf Ki Awaaz* was revived almost like a new film with trumpets. Also on the threshold were *Azad Dush Ke Ghulam*, *Mera Pati Sirf Mera Hai*, *Sheshnaag*

etc. If she had thought over and taken time to marry, this golden chance would have gone. (She has hardly any more films coming).

● Rajesh Khanna may deny a thousand times and claim that he does not need Dimple. But all his words and actions reveal the fact that at his age and turn of career, he is desperate to lead a married life with Dimple and children. The mistake he makes is to want to have it on his own

terms. ● Mithun, the Begali babu, who never demands many things from his producers was mightily upset that his make-up room in Film City did not have a telephone extension. The poor man's angry young man raved and ranted. Result? The studio fixed up all the make-up rooms with phones. Now Mithun will have quiet chats and fix up appointments with you-know-who. But all the other stars will also benefit from it, for local and long-distance calls. And the telephone bills of producers are bound to shoot up to astron-

omical heights that they may have to cut down the payments of lower staff.

● Imagine a film called *American Damad* being launched. It is yet another bid by non-resident Indians to have some link with the country and also expand their business interests. The producers is an America-based businessman Prafulla Patel with partners here. And the obvious choice for the actress is our own cross-country hybrid Pooja Bedi. After *Princess from Kathmandu* this is another N.R.I. effort. Let's hope they reach somewhere.

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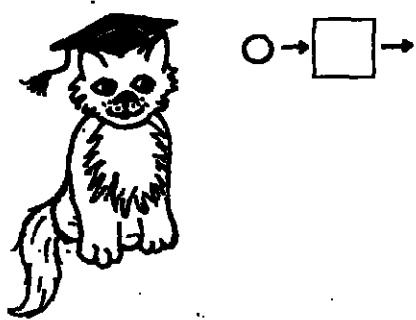
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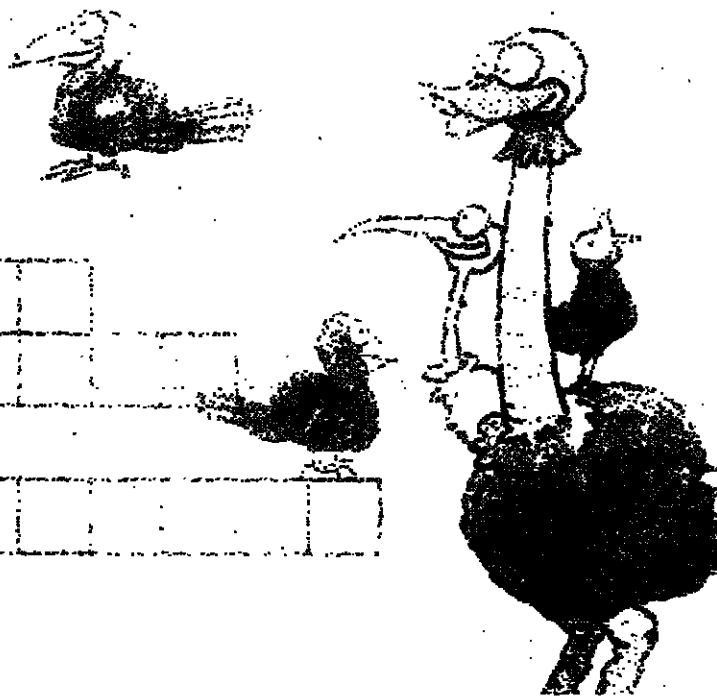
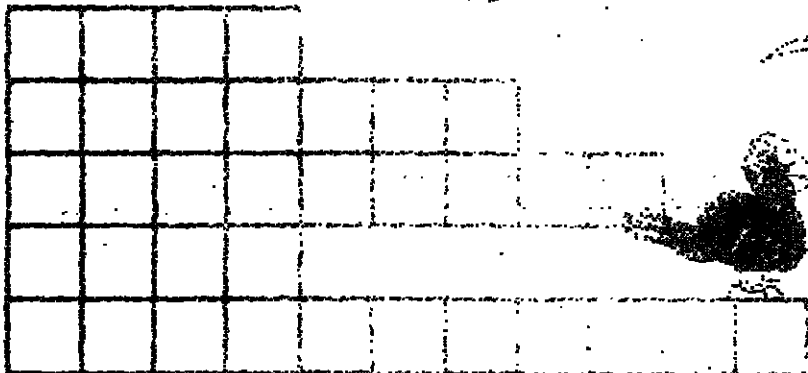
Where's Mummy? Dot-to-dot



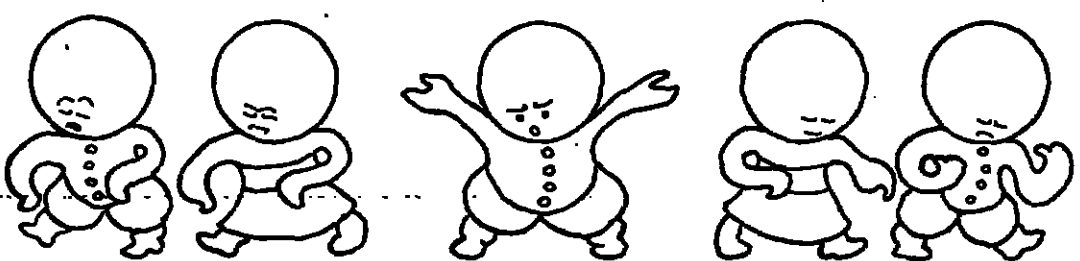
Feathered friends

Unscramble the letters and write the names of the birds in the grid.
You will find that their first letters, read
downwards, make the name
of a sixth bird.

KORO
TRISOCH
KRIBCLABD
SIBI
THINEAGLING



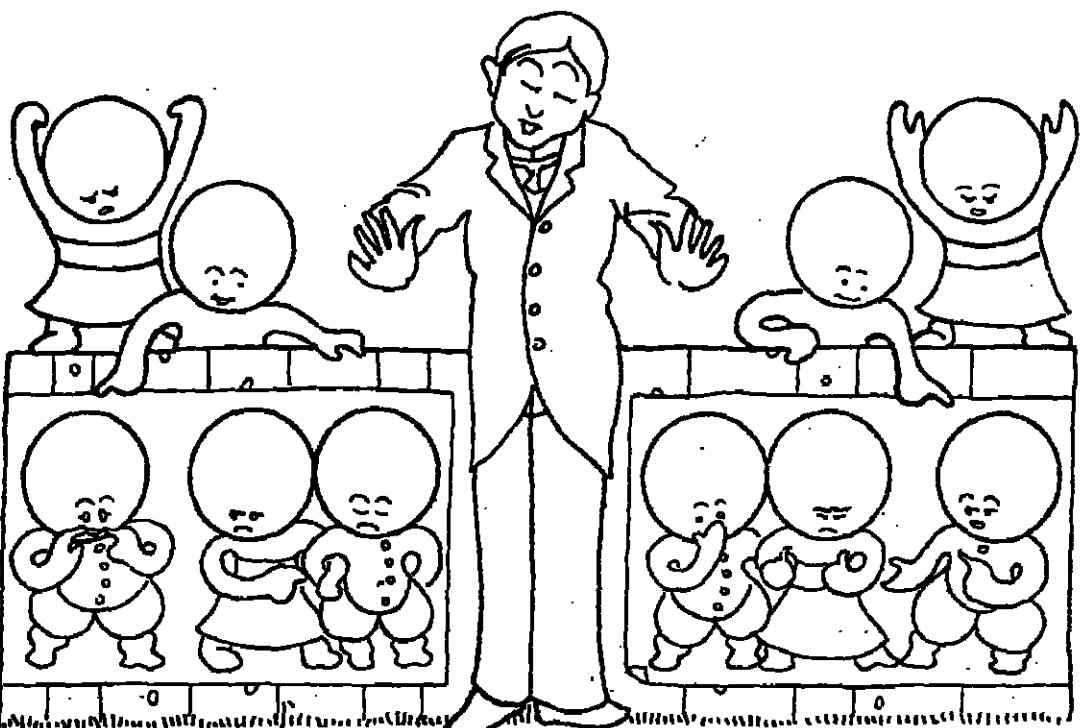
The Goops again



EXAGGERATION

Don't try to tell a story
To beat the one you've heard;
For if you try, you're apt to lie,
And *that* would be absurd!

Don't try to be more funny
Than any one in school;
For if you're not, they'll laugh a lot,
And think you are a fool!



Just for laughs!

What is worse than a
giraffe with a sore neck?
A centipede with corns.

If pig-skins made good
shoes, what can you make
with banana skins?
Slippers

What has a bottom at the
top?
A leg.

What did one eye say to the
other eye?
Something's come be-
tween us that smells.

Why is Kevin Keegan like
a matchstick?
'Cos he strikes from the
edge of the box.

Why did the football man-
ager give his team a lighter?
'Cos they kept losing their
matches.

What has a bed but does
not sleep? What has a
mouth but does not speak?
A river.

Why was the little boy glad
that everyone called him
Cyril?
'Cos that was his name.

Name a shooting star:
Clint Eastwood.

What did the envelope say
to the stamp?
'Stick with me, baby,
and we'll go places!

Why is tennis a noisy
game?
'Cos when you play it
you have to raise a racket.

What is a happy tin in the
United States?
A-merry-can.

Wordsearch

JAPANESE BONSAI

ANCIENT ART

BEND

BONSAI

CONSTANT

CARE

CULTIVATION

DWARF

EVERGREEN

EXPERIENCE

FEED

JUNIPER

MING

MINIATURE

NATURAL FORMS

PATIENCE

PINCHING

PINE

POTTED

RENEW soil

ROOT PRUNING

SKILLS

TINY

TRAY

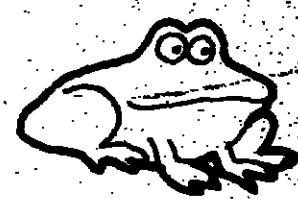
TREES

WIRE

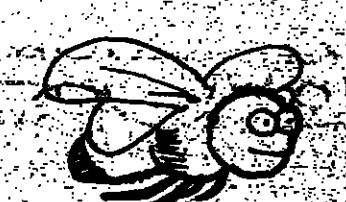
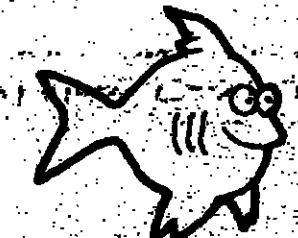
C D E I A S N O B T C G B
O N R C E R S W R O N M S
N E O E N L E A I R I M
S B R I L E T N N R P N R
T T E I T N I U E E E G O
A I K V E A R R R W N P F
N S N I E P V U E I T A L
T F C Y T R T I H P D T A
C N R O A A G C T E X I R
A P O A I R N R T L R E U
R R I N W I T T E Y U N T
E O I N P D O F E E D C A
C M A R E P I N U J N E N

Read each sentence. Then color the picture of the animal who
might have spoken the words.

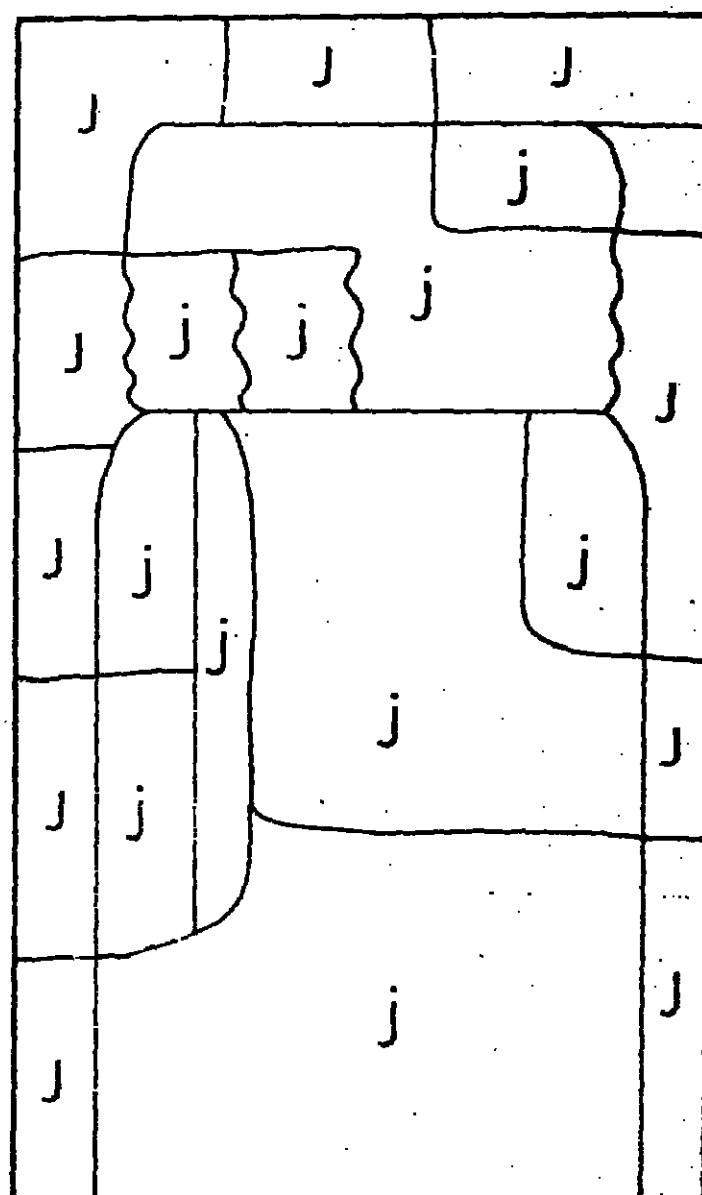
"I like to hop."



"I like to fly."



Color the j spaces one color. Color the spaces
with the capital J's another color. What do you
see that begins with j?

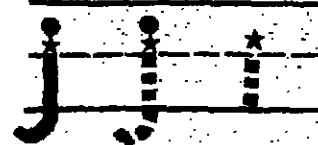


Write the missing letter.

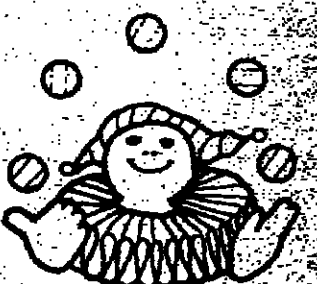
ar



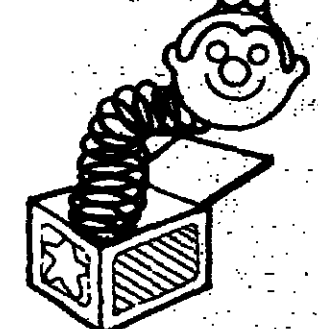
This is a j.
Here are some pictures of words that begin
with j. Point to each picture. Say the words.
Color the pictures. Trace the letter j with a
pencil. Practice making the letter.



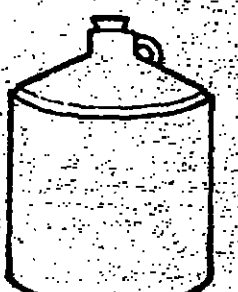
jacks



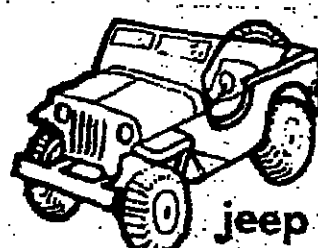
juggler



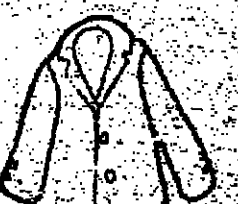
jack in the box



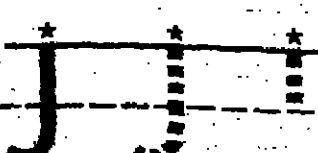
jug



jeep

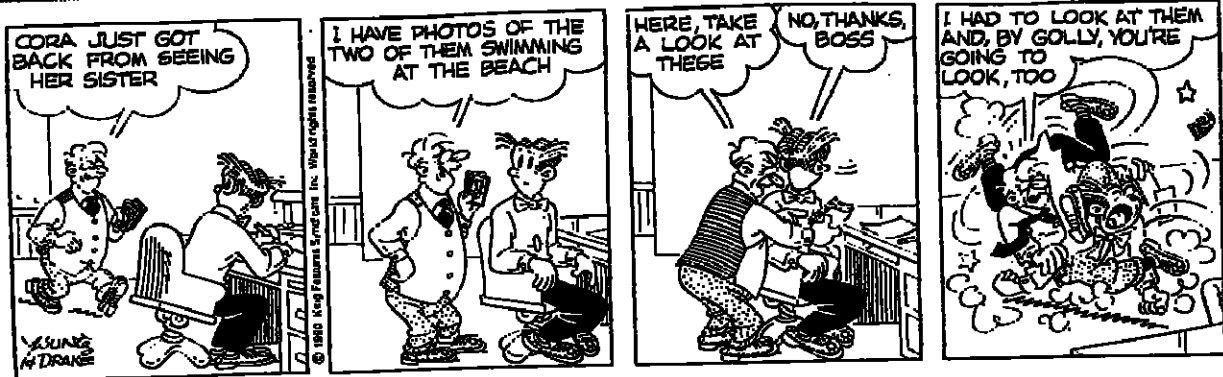


jacket



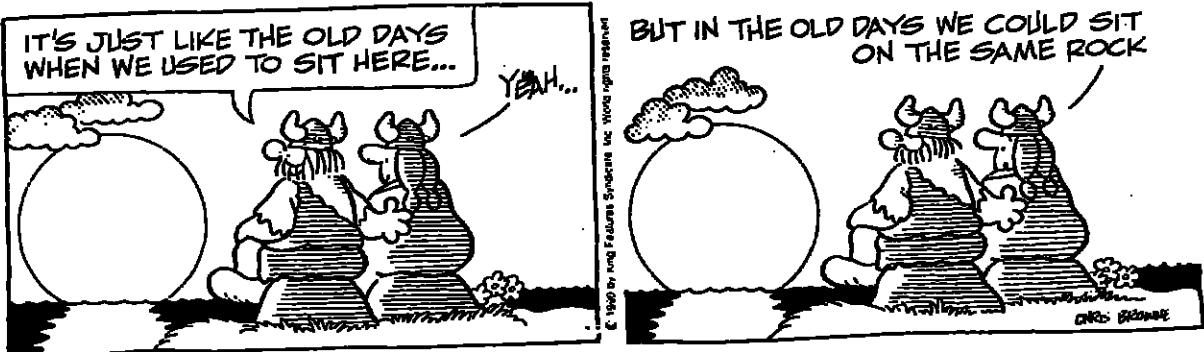
LEISURE

BLONDIE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

By B. S. Brown



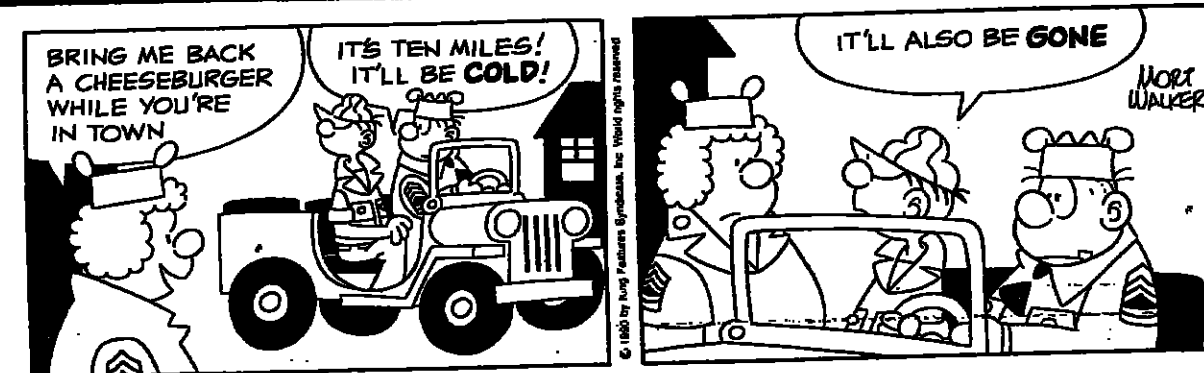
AGATHA CRUM

By Bill Fawcett



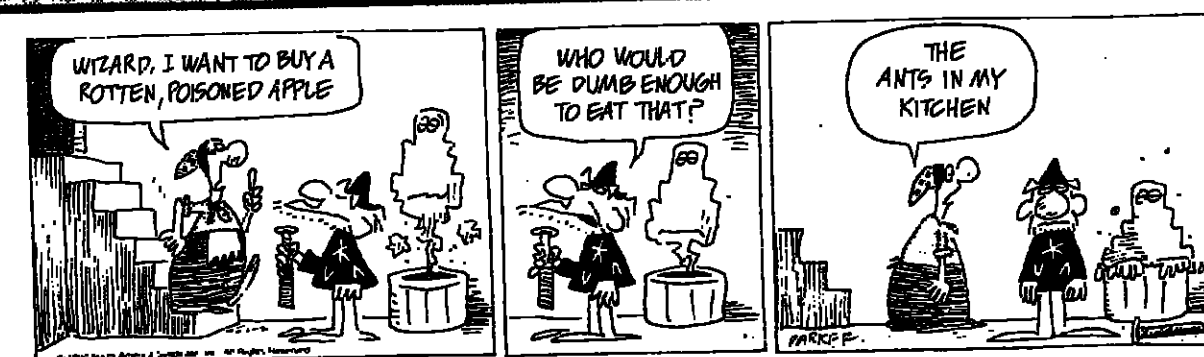
BEETLE BAILEY

By Jeffery L. Brown



THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brian Baskin & Johnny Hart

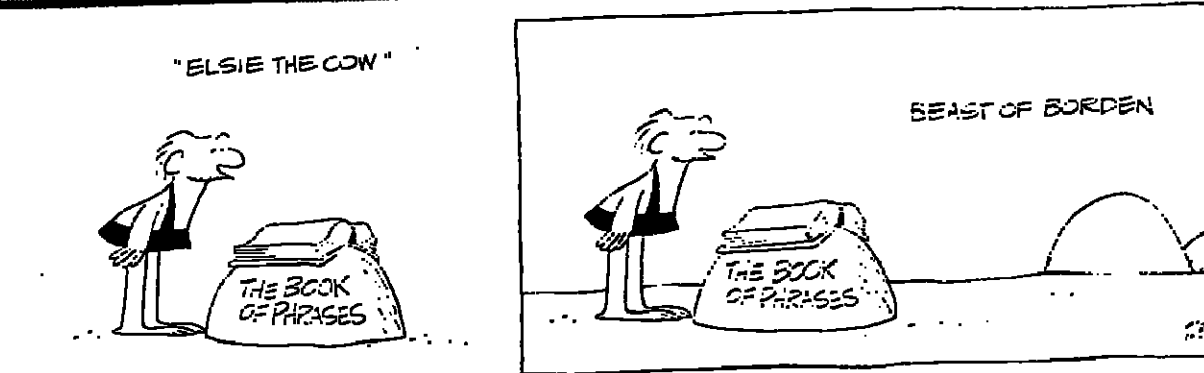


ANDY CAPP

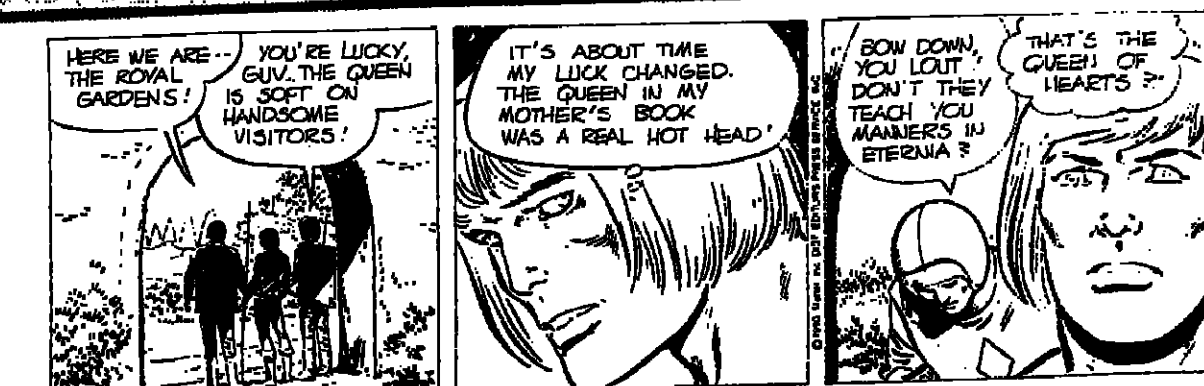
By Andy Capp



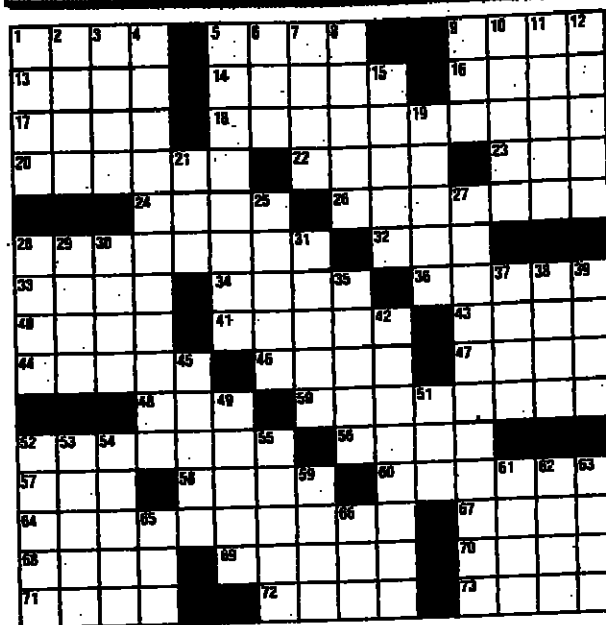
B.C. By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN By G. Forten & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Forbidden
 - Andy's sidekick
 - Laurel or Kenton
 - Champagne bucket
 - Ed Norton's friend
 - Rita's river
 - Ill-tempered one
 - Loy-Mitchum Nick of 1949
 - Decorous
 - River to the Mosel
 - Whopper
 - Facial feature
 - Multiplies by three
 - See
 - Sea dog
 - Switch attachment?
 - Misbehavin'
 - Mr. Chips portrayer
 - Lobster feature
 - NE Brazilian port
 - contenders
 - Sidewalk edges, in London
 - Tiber feeder
 - Dorm resident
 - and ans
 - Took a guess
 - Time for some exams
 - King topper
 - Call it quits
 - Orwell's "Farm"
 - Douglas-Widmark flick of 1967
 - Burt's bride
 - Rail
 - Street show
 - "The Bridge of San -- Ray"
- DOWN**
- Spasms
 - Farm plot
 - Rosary segment
 - Traveler's flick of 1980
 - Well type
 - jungg
 - Corrida cheers
 - He couldn't stand fat
 - Fool
 - Fairy-tale figure
 - "Hall"
 - "The Highwayman" poet
 - Alfred
 - Courage
 - Fear
 - the line
 - French resort
 - Eastwood flick of 1980
 - Tiber feeder
 - Dorm resident
 - and ans
 - Took a guess
 - Time for some exams
 - King topper
 - Call it quits
 - Orwell's "Farm"
 - Douglas-Widmark flick of 1967
 - Burt's bride
 - Rail
 - Street show
 - "The Bridge of San -- Ray"
- ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:**
- ALPS ZOLA PAPAL
SOOT AWES OLIVE
PRAIRIES ERASERS
NASTIS PTAS
SPAR SHAVIER
SPA ELIAS DELA
HUNDREYARDASH
ARTE AERIE LAS
MESTED RAGE
LEES DELLS
SCANDAL OVEREAT
THREELEGGEDRACE
EAGER CORE OVEN
PRODS TOES REDO

GOREN BRIDGE

MONEY IN THE BANK

Both vulnerable: South deals.

NORTH

♠ 9

♥ Q 6 3

♦ K 10 9 8 6 4 2

♣ 9 8

WEST

♠ Void

♥ 7 5 2

♦ A Q 7 3

♣ Q 10 7 6 4 3

EAST

♠ Q J 10 8 6 5 3 2

♥ Void

♦ J 5

♣ A K J 10 9 8 4

SOUTH

♠ A K 7 4

♥ A K J 10 9 8 4

♦ Void

♣ A K

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 ♠	Pass	2 NT	Pass
3 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Two of ♠

It is all too easy to be lulled into a false sense of complacency when you first see a bridge hand. Consider this chestnut. If you reach six hearts, your first reaction when dummy appears is that you have missed a laydown grand slam. But be careful about how you tackle the play.

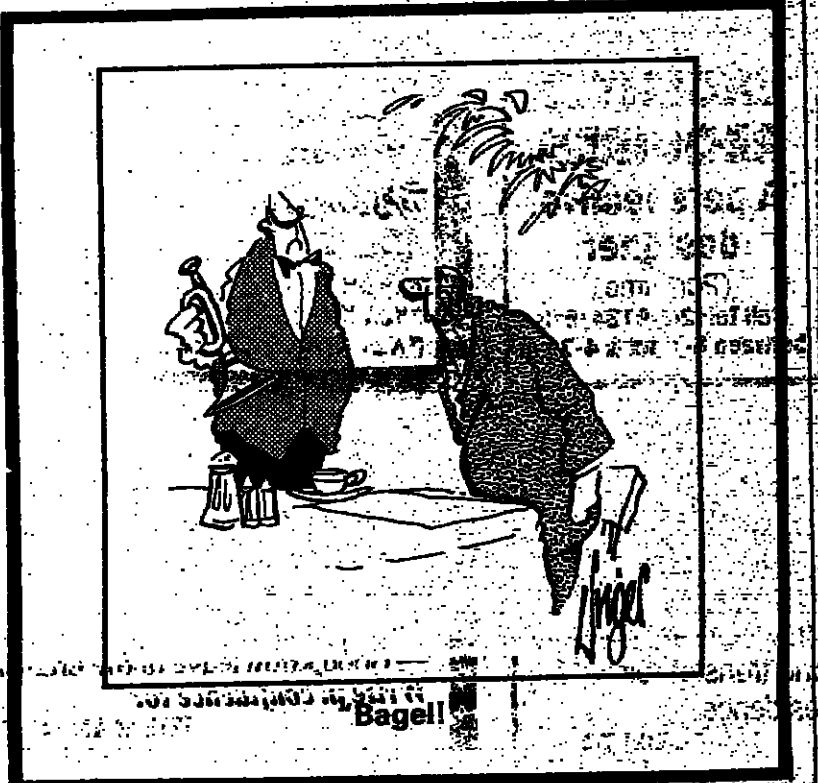
North must shoulder the blame for missing the excellent grand slam. With three trumps to an honor, a singleton and a king, to bid only

four hearts is, pusillanimous—the hand is clearly worth a jump over game to the five-level; after which we can't imagine South stopping short of seven hearts.

The play seems simple enough. Win the heart in hand, cash the ace of spades and ruff a couple of spades in dummy, making all the tricks. Unfortunately, that is not what happens: The one-in-a-million 8-0 spade break, combined with the 3-0 trump split, means you are going to be defeated as the cards lie. West can ruff the ace of spades and lead his remaining trump, and you are left with only one trump on the table to take care of your two losing spades.

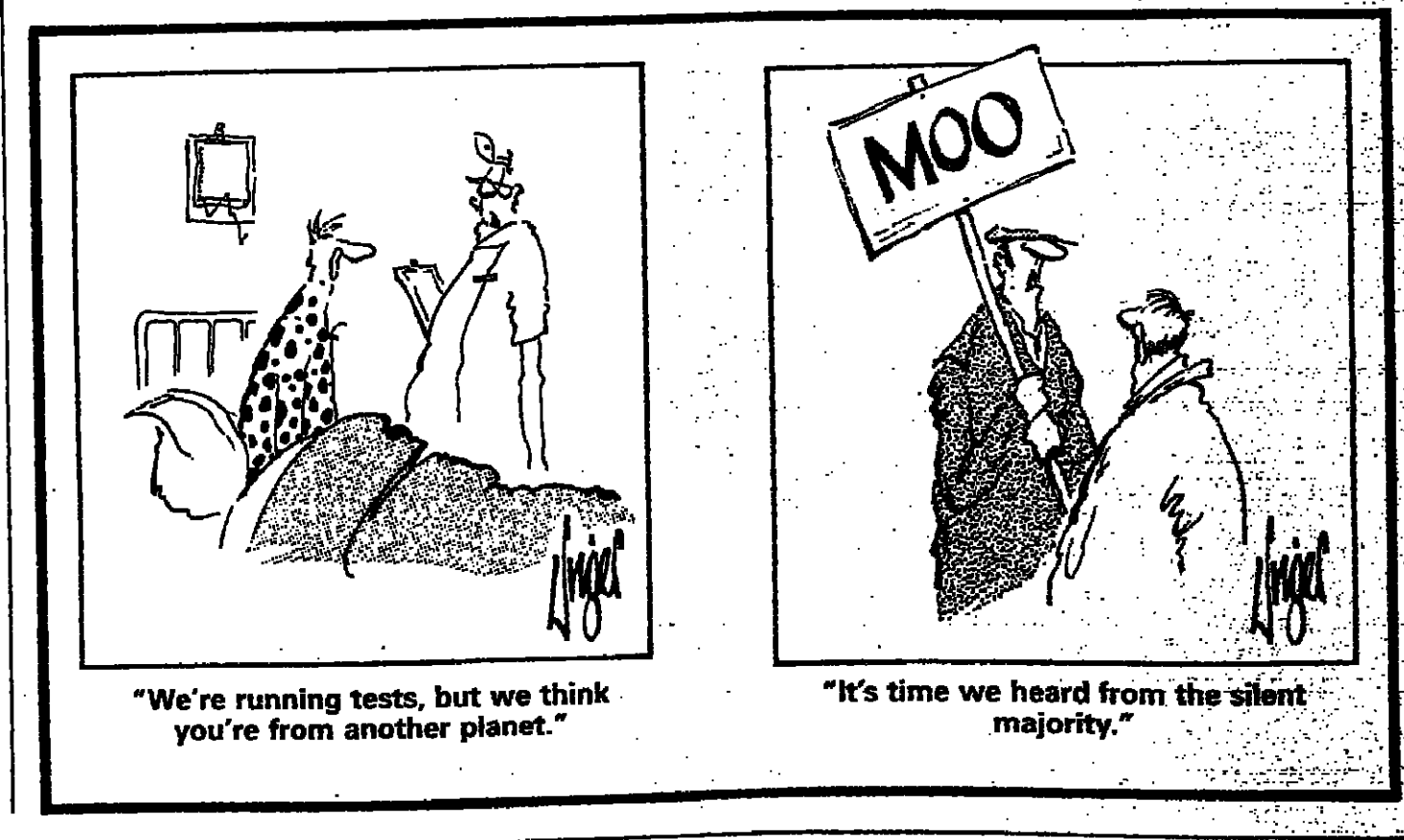
As usual, once you realize the contract might be in jeopardy, however slight, the antidote is easy to find: At trick two, lead a low spade from hand, surrendering a trick you might not have to lose. That enables you to win any return and ruff your remaining spade loser, with the queen if necessary, to ensure 12 tricks.

This is an extreme example. However, there are many situations that crop up at the table where you can guarantee your contract by sacrificing a meaningless overtrick. That's a small premium to pay for a game or slam.



YOUR STARS

<p>Aries March 21 - April 20</p> <p>You will tend to be a little gloomy, so try to look on the bright side. Do not say the first thing that comes to mind and do not act on impulse either. Remember that others are entitled to their opinions as much as you are entitled to yours. Be moderate.</p>	<p>Cancer June 21 - July 20</p> <p>You will be able to see how to deal with a complicated situation. There is no point in dwelling on the past nor in regrets. Try to leave yourself with a little more room for manoeuvre. Be more methodical.</p>	<p>Libra Sept. 23 - Oct. 22</p> <p>You will tend to confuse what is with what you would like to be and should try not to. You should show a little more good-will towards others. Something you had been anticipating will happen but not quite in the way you had thought it would. Be diligent.</p>	<p>Capricorn Dec. 21 - Jan. 19</p> <p>Avoid becoming involved in something that does not really concern you at all. Your lucky numbers are 17 and 38. Make sure you get enough rest as well as sufficient exercise. Do not allow any thing to come between you and your partner. Be less pessimistic.</p>
<p>Taurus April 21 - May 20</p> <p>You will rather tend to lose sight of your objectives and should do what you can to counter the trend. You will get some good advice and do your best to take it. You should avoid making obstacles for yourself. Be proud of yourself.</p>	<p>Leo July 21 - Aug. 21</p> <p>Do not expect other to see everything from your point of view. And if you expect less you will not be so disappointed when you get less. Do not lose sight of your objectives and stay strong in your resolve. Be kind.</p>	<p>Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 22</p> <p>You will be proved right but there is nothing to be gained from gloating upon the fact. You should do your best to avoid giving the wrong impression. If you think others are more foolish than you they will almost certainly be thinking the same about you. Be frank.</p>	<p>Aquarius Jan. 20 - Feb. 19</p> <p>You should have more faith in yourself. This is a good time to make some changes that will have to be made sooner or later. Try to avoid taking on any more commitments until you have dealt with your current ones. Be tactful.</p>
<p>Gemini May 21 - June 20</p> <p>You will find a readily good book to read but do not allow it interfere with what has to be done. You should do your best to get things into their right proportions. And avoid exaggerations and exceeding limits. Be less obstinate.</p>	<p>Virgo Aug. 23 - Sept. 22</p> <p>Something you have been trying to get right will now fall into place. You will be able to make a few changes, but consider them carefully, are they for the better? Do not do anything that is bound to be bad for your health. Be sincere.</p>	<p>Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21</p> <p>You should try to have good laugh at yourself rather than taking everything so seriously. Try to use a little more speed, but do not let yourself become negligent in the process. You should attend to what is practical and not indulge in wishful thinking. Be discreet.</p>	<p>Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20</p> <p>There will be some confusion and you should do your best not to add to it. If you think you know all the answers that is a good enough reason why you do not. Act without delay or you will miss a good opportunity. Be resolute.</p>



MARKET PLACE

GUARANTEED authentic lessons in systematic theory and technique of playing organ/accordion/piano at home by Canada trained Indian consultant in music. Tele. residence, 2541093, forenoon.

(AT6-53176-3)

Transport

REQUIRED from Amman Street to Juleeb Al Shiyookh, Ministry working hours. Tel. 5628541 after 11 am. Jassim.

(AT4-53115-3)

WANTED from Sabahiya to Shuwaikh (Al Rai) mornings only. Contact Joseph. Tel. 4766931-4.

(AT4-53143-3)

WANTED reliable transport with AC from Salmiya to Kuwait City near Banking Complex, four times daily. Timings 8 am to 12:30 pm; 3:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Contact Sekhar 2451465.

(AT4-53138-3)

PETS

GOOD home wanted for 3 healthy 2 weeks old kittens, 1 female, 2 males, domesticated and healthy. Tel. 3921037 evenings.

(AT4-53127-3)

PERSEAN female cat, white colour, one year old, very attractive eyes with different colours. Brown and green, for sale. Tel. 5745681.

(AT5-53172-3)

LABRADOR retriever puppy for sale to good home. Tel. 563896, after 2.30 pm only.

(AT4-53146-3)

MISCELLANEOUS

FOR ladies — crochet work instructions at home in Salwa. Contact Mrs Shirin. Tel. 5618218 for details.

(AT6-53194-3)

SITUATIONS

Wanted

INDIAN lady having experience in typing, shorthand, telephone & tele. for 5 years in Bombay, having Res. No. 18 looking for a suitable job. Tel. 2614936, Shanti, 4 pm to 6.30 pm.

(AT4-53117-3)

WANTED

POSTAGE second-hand books, buying stamps and revenue stamps used and unused. Tel. 3727491.

(AT2-53037-12)

MITSUBISHI Pajero, Nissan Petrol, Isuzu Trooper or Toyota Land Cruiser, '87, '88, '89 model. Tel. 2544817.

(AT5-53163-2)

DEAR ladies, I want to buy your old clothes, skirts, dresses and jeans. Tel. for details 2633256.

(AT6-53203-3)

SPORTS

Egypt stays awake all night, King Hussain congratulates Mubarak

CAIRO, June 13, (Reuters): Cairo's skies lit up with fireworks as thousands of Egyptians poured into the streets, chanting and honking car horns in jubilation over their team's 1-1 draw with the Netherlands in its first World Cup game.

hours today, they beat tambourines, waved Egyptian flags and shouted, "God is great."

Others hung out of car windows, stripped off T-shirts and let them fly in the breeze, while some jumped onto horse-drawn carriages and cheered their way through the city.

Cairo's streets had been deserted while the Egyptian team — the first to qualify for the World Cup finals in 56 years — played the Netherlands. But minutes after the match finished, the city burst into life.

Egypt is not going to sleep tonight, said a traffic policeman watch-

ing the crowds block one of Cairo's bridges.

Outsiders Egypt shocked the Netherlands by scoring from a late penalty in the 83rd minute. The Netherlands, European champion, took the lead in the 58th minute.

"My heart almost stopped when

the Dutch scored," said Attiya Abdo Attiya, who travelled from the Nile delta town of Mansoura to Cairo especially to watch the match.

"I have been feeling absolute terror since the morning and have been living on the hopes that Egypt would

draw in this match," he said.

Jordan's King Hussein sent a telegram congratulating Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on the team's performance. Mubarak, who told the team before their departure to Italy to play as though they were on a patriotic mission, sent them a

telegram of thanks after the match.

"You captured the admiration of your people who followed with care and interest your efforts to make Egypt's name stand up high in the World Cup matches... you were a picture of pride for Egypt's youth," Mubarak said.

Egyptians stun Dutch with 1-1 draw

European champions just escape being mummified



Above and right: action shots of the match. (Reuters wirephoto)

PALERMO, June 13, (Reuters): Unfancied Egypt shocked the Netherlands with a late penalty for a well deserved 1-1 draw in their first World Cup Group F game yesterday.

Magdi Abdel-Ghani scored from the spot in the 83rd minute after Hossam Hassan was pulled down by Dutch sweeper Ronald Koeman to produce yet another surprise result by an outsider at the finals.

The European champions had opened the scoring in the 58th minute through second half substitute Wim Kieft but the adventurous Egyptians were unlucky to have fallen behind at that stage.

Dutch keeper Hans van Breukelen had twice denied the African qualifiers with fine saves early in the second period.

After 50 minutes, he dived low to his left to push a shot from Ahmed El Kass round the post following great work on the wing by captain Gamal Abdel-Hamid.

Van Breukelen then did well to parry a close range header from Abdel-Hamid and raced from his

goal to force Hossam Hassan to shoot wide.

The skilful Egyptians, playing in their first finals for over 50 years, wasted another great chance when Magdi Tolba volleyed over from just six metres as a cross from Ibrahim Hassan found him completely unmarked after 75 minutes.

The Dutch, among the favourites to lift the title, made the early running with captain Ruud Gullit almost setting up Ronald Koeman with a header after a corner.

But Egypt, boosted by Friday's famous victory by fellow Africans Cameroon against champions Argentina, refused to be overawed.

They had a penalty appeal refused after 15 minutes when Ronald Koeman, troubled by Hossam Hassan's pace, appeared to bundle the striker over.

Five minutes later, Ahmed El Kass fired a tremendous 25-metre shot just wide of the post.

The Dutch sparked into life and Gullit headed on for Marco van Basten to volley

acrobatically over the bar from 10 metres.

Gullit then put over a curling left wing cross but goalkeeper Ahmed Shubair clung on to the ball. He also did well to parry a Ronald Koeman free-kick just before half-time.

Gullit, returning to full fitness after a year's absence with a knee injury, flitted in and out of the game and was the victim of a heavy tackle which earned Ahmed Ramzi a booking after 55 minutes.

Shortly afterwards Kieft also received a yellow card following a heavy tackle on Ibrahim Hassan.

The Egyptians looked to have missed a great opportunity to pull off a surprise until Abdel-Ghani's late penalty.

The Dutch had two late chances but Gullit blazed wide from good positions on the right on both occasions to cap a frustrating night for himself and his team.

At the end, the crowd, who had come to see the Dutch stars, Gullit, Van Basten and Rijkaard perform, were cheering every time the Egyptians touched the ball.

Dutch coach Leo Beenhakker said: "I was not very satisfied with the result. We played a bad match. This was not the normal level of the Netherlands, as anyone who saw us at the European championship will know."

Beenhakker said the team had a lot to think about before Saturday's game with England.

"The problem is not our opponents. The problem is with our own performance and we've only got four days to put it right," he said.

Egyptian coach Mahmoud El Gohari was delighted.



Abdel-Ghani Magdi is lifted in the air by teammate Magdi Tolba. (Reuters wirephoto)

Germans prepare ordeal for UAE

MILAN, June 13, (Reuters): West Germany, looking potential champions when they crushed Yugoslavia 4-1 last Sunday, will subject the unrated United Arab Emirates to a World Cup ordeal on Friday.

The UAE, 1,000-1 outsiders for the title when the draw was made last December, anticipated the worst long before they arrived in Italy when their coach said a 6-0 defeat by West Germany was possible.

The West Germans played with such command against the Yugoslavs that a drubbing looks unavoidable for the UAE, who were defeated 2-0 by Colombia in their opening Group D match last Saturday.

"We are not putting any pressure on the players. Nobody will ask them to beat the Germans, but in football everything is possible — even the UAE beating Germany," the UAE's Brazilian coach Carlos Alberto Pereira said, summoning a note of optimism.

"We just want to disturb the German team as much as we can to make them at least sweat a bit. I told the players 'show what you can do, that's all'."

The UAE will have taken more than a crumb of comfort from Egypt's feat yesterday when they held the Netherlands, European champions and among the World Cup favourites, to a 1-1 draw in Palermo.

West Germany have had their problems with unfancied teams in past World Cups, drawing 0-0 with Tunisia in 1978 and, sensationally, losing 2-1 to Algeria in 1982.

But the 1990 West Germans, driven by the enthusiasm of Sunday's two-goal hero Lothar Matthaus, are in determined mood and team chief Franz Beckenbauer has promised an all-out offensive.

"We have to put them under pressure and disturb them. We've got to do that against the Emirates almost better than against the Yugoslavs," he said.

Beckenbauer, guarded about his selection before the Yugoslavia match, found the first spirited performance so convincing that he immediately announced an identical line-up against the UAE.

"They have a different game. They must not be underestimated," he said.

While preparing for the match, the West Germans have also found time to relax, with the squad given time off from Monday evening to Tuesday lunch-time for visits from wives and girlfriends.

Milan's San Siro Stadium, where West Germany play all their three group matches, is home turf for their Inter Milan trio of Matthaus, defender Andreas Brehme and striker Jurgen Klinsmann.

Kickoff: Friday, 10.00 pm (Kuwait time)



Hossam Hassan (right) and Holland's Ronald Koeman fight for the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)



An Egyptian fan wearing a Sphinx-style hat pounds on his drum during the match. (Reuters wirephoto)



Jubilant Egyptians dance on the roof of a mini-bus in Cairo. (Reuters wirephoto)



Ibrahim Hassan and Magdi celebrate Egypt's goal. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gullit fears early Dutch exit from World Cup

PALERMO, June 13, (Reuters): Dutch captain Ruud Gullit admitted his team must improve if they are to avoid an early departure from the World Cup following yesterday's 1-1 draw with unfancied Egypt.

"We have to rediscover our strength. We have to do something more because if we go on this way we will be eliminated," Gullit said.

The Dutch, European champions two years ago and among the favourites in Italy, never got into their stride against the fast and skilful Egyptians, who would have emulated Cameroon's sensational win over Argentina had they shown more composure in front of goal.

"We've been playing very badly for two years... there are players (in the Dutch team) who don't have trust in others," Gullit said.

Two years ago an almost identical Dutch team lost their opening European championship match but picked themselves up to beat England 3-1 in the next game and then went on to lift the trophy.

The Dutch now hope for a similar change in fortunes and ironically England, who drew with Ireland on Monday, will again provide the opposition.

"It will be a very tough match because they, too, will want a good result," Gullit warned.

Egypt, in their first World Cup finals since 1934, now begin preparations for Sunday's game against Ireland with growing confidence over their chances of reaching the next stage of the competition.

"This is a very tight group as the two opening draws show and we can only improve," coach Mahmoud El Gohari said.

El Gohari has had his squad of predominantly part-time players together for several months preparation, including a series of international friendlies and the effort is beginning to pay off.

Austrians, Czechs set for clash

FLORENCE, June 13, (Reuters): Austria and Czechoslovakia are poised to play a game of cat and mouse in their key World Cup Group A match on Friday.

With hosts Italy expected to win the group, the winner of the Florence clash will be well placed to move through to the second round as runners-up.

Neither the Czechoslovaks, who opened their World Cup campaign with a 5-1 thrashing of the United States on Sunday, nor the Austrians, beaten 1-0 by Italy in Rome last weekend, are likely to be particularly adventurous.

"It's an even match. Both teams can win and there's a lot at stake," Austrian coach

Josef Hickersberger said.

"The Czechoslovaks will play the same way against us as they normally do. They will camp in their own half, make us come to them, and then counter-attack."

Czechoslovakia are a strong defensive side and, with two points already under their belt, will not adopt the attacking style they displayed against the young, inexperienced Americans.

Coach Jozef Venglos will probably field the same team that started the US game, including the controversial duo of midfielder Lubos Kubik and striker Ivo Knoflicek, neither of whom played in the qualifying round after defecting to the West in 1988.

Their selection for the World Cup upset some players and fans who believed the Czechoslovaks should have kept to the squad that qualified.

But despite the controversy over Lubik and Knoflicek, the drubbing of the Americans gave the Czechoslovaks a major shot in the arm after some indifferent pre-World Cup friendlies.

Austria are almost certain to be without 27-year-old midfielder Manfred Linzmaier, who twisted his ankle in the Italian defeat in Rome and only began light training yesterday. He is expected to be replaced by Alfred Hoernig.

Kick off: 6pm (Kuwait time)

Robson defends England

CAGLAIRI, June 13, (Reuters): England manager Bobby Robson yesterday defended the aerial and combative style of play employed by his team during their pedestrian 1-1 draw in Monday's opening World Cup Group F clash.

Robson, irritated by questions from English journalists suggesting his team lacked the ability or flair to make any impact on the competition, blamed the lack of invention and spectacle in the game on Ireland's approach.

"Do England normally play like that under me?" he asked.

"We didn't play ground football the way we expected to, but you wait until you see the way Holland play against Ireland. It will be the same for them."

The England manager was visibly agitated, as he had been the previous evening when asked about his team's unfashionable tactics and style, and conceded that his players had missed out on vital experience and education through the ban on English clubs from European soccer since 1985.

Foreign hooligans spoiling World Cup party for Italians

ROME, June 13, (Reuters): Stunned by soccer violence and accustomed to gratuitous violence, Italians are bewildered by the way North European hooligans seem intent on spoiling their World Cup party.

Pre-match violence and vandalism by West German and English supporters in Milan and Cagliari have made headlines in Italy, often pushing match reports into second place.

Although Italians are well-acquainted with bloody mafia ambushes and the ruthless Red Brigades killings of the late 1970s, mass violence for its own sake provokes outrage and astonishment.

"We don't like this violence from rich, cultured, modern Northern Europe. This behaviour is senseless, infantile and gratuitous," an Italian television commentator said.

He spoke after about 1,000 West German fans ran wild through the centre of Milan on Sunday, smashing shop windows, fighting with riot police and turning the city's graceful Cathedral Square into a bat-



Dutch soccer fans get their belongings checked just before the start of the Holland-Egypt match yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

tlefield.

In Cagliari, drunken English fans clashed with riot police on Sunday for the second time in three days.

The hooligans themselves, especially bare-chested, tattooed English youths sporting skin-head haircuts and makeshift

national flags for shorts, are viewed by smartly-dressed Italians as strange creatures from another planet.

"Why do they want to make themselves look so ugly? Why do they go around drinking all the time with hardly any clothes on," asked a Rome bar owner.



West German soccer fans all ready to support their team in their match against Yugoslavia on Sunday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Italian security officials had focused their efforts on Sardinia and on separating rival fans at other stadiums, while banning alcohol sales for 24 hours either side of matches.

Few ordinary people were expecting trouble to break out before a match, and least of all in

Milan on a sunny Sunday afternoon while Italian families were taking their customary stroll.

Police themselves admitted they were taken by surprise.

"I've been in Milan four years and I've never seen such violence," carabinieri police Captain Paolo La Forgia told a

court trying eight West German hooligans yesterday.

Italy is not immune from soccer violence but the relatively rare incidents of hooliganism have mostly occurred directly before or after matches.

"I can understand political violence and demonstrations against specific causes, but we just can't understand this sort of senseless fighting," an astonished Italian journalist said.

Before the World Cup, many Italians admired the British for their sense of fair play and their reputation as the civilised gentlemen of Europe.

English visitors in Italy are now bombarded with the question: "Why do your people behave like this?"

"Is it the fault of (Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher?), asked teacher Teresa Rossi.

Even Italian soccer players were taken aback by television pictures of masked West German youths wielding iron bars in Milan. "I didn't think there were hooligans in Germany as well," said Italy captain Giuseppe Bergomi.

Thomas takes Pistons past Trail Blazers

PORTLAND, Oregon, June 13. (Reuters) Guard Isiah Thomas scored 30 of his 32 points in the second half to lead the Detroit Pistons to a 112-109 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers in the fourth game of the National Basketball Association finals last night.

The win gives defending champions Detroit a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven series, which continues tomorrow in

Portland. No team has ever come back from a 3-1 deficit to win the NBA title.

Detroit, leading 81-65 late in the third quarter, held off a spirited Portland rally led by guard Clyde Drexler, who scored 22 of his game-high 34 points in the second half.

Forward Jerome Kersey added 33 points for the Blazers, a career-playoff high.

Guard Joe Dumars, playing two days after the death of his father, scored 26 points for the Pistons.

Thomas, saddled with foul problems in the first half, scored four points over the final 25.7 seconds, including two free throws with 8.4 seconds remaining to give Detroit a 110-107 lead.

After a pair of free throws by Portland's Terry Porter cut the margin to

110-109 with 6.5 seconds left, Detroit put the ball in bounds to forward James Edwards. He passed to streaking guard Gerald Henderson for a layup and a 112-109 edge with 1.3 seconds to go.

Portland threw the ball in to reserve guard Danny Young, who dribbled across the midcourt line and let loose with a 35-foot desperation shot that swished as the buzzer sounded.

KPBL tourney starts

"THE KPBL (Kuwait Pinoy Basketball League) 1990 2nd Conference" unfolds tomorrow at the Kaifan Secondary High School Gym. This was confirmed by the league's Secretariat, which added that the competitions are being "officially sponsored" by the "Trico International Ltd." a forwarding & shipping agent specializing in door to door services (air/sea) to the Philippines.

In an interview with the Arab Times, Trico Int'l Managing Director Don Jayantha Kannan-gara confirmed his sponsorship of the competitions. He added that the entire staff at Trico are backing up the "KPBL" as its activities were for the Pinoy expatriates here in Kuwait. Asan added bonus to the KPBL and the Filipino community in general, Trico will be giving an "exclusive 10 per cent discount" to all KPBL season pass holders, officers, players and other team officials.

Tomorrow's opening ceremonies starts off with the 8:30 am parade of all the participants. The confirmed guest list includes members of the Philippines' embassy in Kuwait, headed by Dr. Mayag Mohammad Tamano the ambassador, who will deliver the "inspirational message."

The day's activities will include, among others the presentation of a special plaque of recognition to Piza Italia's Chawki E. Barakat for his continued support to the "KPBL" and the Filipino community in general.

Other highlights of the day are the selection of Miss KPBL '90 2nd-conference, the awarding of a plaque to the team with the best uniform, the exhibition match between the KPBL All-Filipino Selection and BES Engineering, and the "Unahan Sa Beante" one-day-championship which shall be participated in by 19 all Filipino teams.

The final cast of all Filipino entries are as follows: Al Ghanim Pistons, Al Ghanim Mangaf, Al Wayle Trading, Al Widad/Capcom, Hasawi Eagles, Kaleco, Kay & Associates, Kellogg Plants Services, Kirby Building Systems, Kuwait Computer Association, Kuwait Hotels, Co. Kuwait International Hotel, KPBC Greek House, Kuwait Regency Palace, N.I.C. Nissan Al Babbain, Overland Transport Co., Piza Italia and Trend Wave.

In a related development, the KPBL Secretariat has announced that the deadline of submission of entries for the Open/Expatriates Men's Basketball and Darts Invitational has been extended to June 29 to accommodate late entries.

The "Trico/KPBL 1990 2nd Conference" will be covered in detail in the Sunday sports pages of the "Arab Times."

Lewis set to run again

NORWALK, California, June 13. (Reuters) Six-time Olympic champion Carl Lewis, who has spent much of the past nine months working on his biography, finds out tomorrow whether he can still run with America's best.

The 100-metre preliminaries at the US National Athletics Championships will be Lewis' first major test in almost nine months. He boycotted last year's event because of differences with officials of the Athletics Congress (TAC), which governs the sport in the United States.

"We don't know if he's ready to compete at this level," said the athlete's business manager Joe Douglas after Lewis ran 10.42 seconds at a low-key meeting in Houston last week.

"We're going to take it one heat at a time."

Besides Lewis, five other world record-holders are entered in the three-day meeting at Cerritos College in suburban Los Angeles.

Randy Barnes will attempt to continue his record-breaking assault in the men's shot put. Roger Kingdom will seek a third successive title in the men's 110-metre hurdles and veteran Willie Banks will participate in the men's triple jump.

Atherton hits maiden ton

England, New Zealand Test ends in draw

NOTTINGHAM, England, June 13. (Reuters) Mike Atherton lightened the gloom at Trent Bridge yesterday with a maiden century of considerable class as the rain-hit match between England and New Zealand petered out into a predictable draw.

When he finally miscued a shot to be caught at mid-off, the 22-year-old opener had compiled 151, faced 382 balls and been at the crease a total of eight hours 21 minutes.

He helped England to a first

innings total of 345 for nine declared in reply to New Zealand's 208 and the visitors were 36 for two in their second innings at the finish.

A result was never likely after rain washed out most of the play on Friday and Saturday and the main interest lay in whether Atherton, playing in his third Test, could reach his century.

After bad light delayed the start for 30 minutes, Atherton resumed on 78 and England 187 for five and quickly showed his intentions by hooking and driv-

ing paceman Richard Hadlee for boundaries.

But he was also resolute in defence and refused to be unnerved when stuck for 21 minutes on 98 with that maiden century tantalisingly close.

It finally came with a flashing square cut to the boundary off a short ball from seamer Martin Snedden, the 310th he had faced in 10 minutes short of seven hours at the crease.

Atherton became the youngest batsman to score a century for England since the then 21-year-old Gower in 1978, also against New Zealand. Ironically, it was Gower who was dropped after the one-day internationals to make way for Atherton.

At the other end, wicketkeeper Jack Russell proved the perfect foil with a calm, assured innings and together the pair added 92 for the sixth wicket before Russell top-edged a catch to mid-off after making 28.

Atherton, who early in his innings had refused to be unnerved by watching both his captain Graham Gooch and deputy Allan Lamb dismissed without scoring, then began to show more of his shots.

He drove Snedden through the covers for three and then went down the pitch to loft off-spinner John Bracewell over his head for four. His third 50 came from only 69 balls.

A late flurry by England's tailenders gave the small crowd something else to cheer, particularly Gladstone Small who hit a quickfire 26 before falling to Hadlee, the ace paceman's fourth wicket of the innings.

Gooch declared at tea leaving New Zealand a possible 100 minutes awkward batting but that

was also shortened by bad light and rain.

There was, however, time for England to snap up the wicket of New Zealand captain John Wright cheaply for the second time in the match when he was caught by Russell off small for eight.

Andrew Jones was also caught behind off Phillip DeFreitas for 13 before the frustrating stop-start game was finally called off for good.

The second Test begins at Lord's on June 21.

Scoreboard

NEW ZEALAND first innings 208 (M Crowe 59, P DeFreitas five for 53) ENGLAND first innings (overnight 187-5)

G Gooch lbw b Hadlee 0
M Atherton c Snedden b Priest 151
A Stewart c Smith b Hadlee 27
A Lamb lbw b Hadlee 0
R Smith c Smith b Bracewell 55
N Fairbrother c Franklin b Snedden 19
J Russell c Snedden b Morrison 26
P DeFreitas lbw b Bracewell 14
G Small c Crowe b Hadlee 26
E Hemmings not out 13
D Malcolm not out 4
Extras (b-2 lb-3 nb-3) 8
Total (for nine wickets, declared) 345
Fall of wickets: 1-0 2-43 3-45 4-141 5-168 6-260 7-302 8-306 9-340

Bowling: Hadlee 33-6-89-4, Morrison 22-3-96-1, Snedden 36-17-84-1, Bracewell 35-6-75-2, Priest 12-4-26-1

NEW ZEALAND second innings
T Franklin not out 22
J Wright c Russell b Small 1
A Jones c Russell b DeFreitas 13
D Morrison not out 0
Extras 0
Total (for two wickets) 36
Fall of wickets: 1-8 2-36

Bowling: Malcolm 7-2-22-0, Small 6-2-14-1, DeFreitas 2-2-0-1, Hemmings 2-2-0-0

Result: match drawn
Second Test: Lord's June 21-26
Third Test: Edgbaston, July 5-10

Richards slams century

LONDON, June 13. (Reuters) West Indies cricket captain Viv Richards hit 109 from just 111 balls yesterday to steer Glamorgan to a six wickets win over Northamptonshire in the English County Cricket Championship.

Richards shared a fourth wicket partnership of 227 with South African rebel Matthew Maynard (125 not out) in the Welsh team's first win at Northampton since 1969.

Richards hit four sixes and 12 fours while Maynard's century, scored off 150 deliveries, contained a six and 19 fours. Earlier, England all-rounder David Capel followed his first innings century with an unbeaten 64 as Northants declared at 215 for four.

At Old Trafford, former England opener Graeme Fowler hit 126 as Lancashire leaped to the top of the championship table. They head Nottinghamshire by one point after beating Gloucestershire by five wickets.

The visitors, without a championship win this season, had earlier declared at 321 for seven and forfeited their second innings in a bid to match victory, one of a series of contrived finishes in the latest round of rain-hit matches.

Chasing a target of 322 off 90 overs, Lancashire raced to 94 for the first wicket. Veteran Trevor Jesty saw them home with an unbeaten 84 in a total of 324 for five at the close.

Results

At Northampton: Glamorgan beat Northamptonshire by six wickets. Northamptonshire 350 for

eight declared in 96.2 overs and 215 for four declared (D. Capel 64 not out, R. Bailey 47 not out, M. Frost three for 58). Glamorgan 259 in 86 overs and 309 for four (M. Maynard 125 not out, V. Richards 109). Glamorgan 22 points, Northamptonshire eight.

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire beat Essex by five wickets. Essex 331 for five declared in 120.1 overs with second innings forfeited. Warwickshire 41 for no wicket declared in 13.4 overs and 234 for five (A. Moles 97, G. Humpage 43, Asif Din 42). Warwickshire 18 points, Essex three.

At Old Trafford: Lancashire beat Gloucestershire by five wickets. Gloucestershire 321 for seven declared in 121.2 overs (I. Austin three for 42) and second innings forfeited. Lancashire forfeited first innings and 324 for five (G. Fowler 126, T. Jesty 84 not out). Lancashire 18 points, Gloucestershire three.

Add Canterbury: Kent v Somerset — match drawn. Somerset 322 for five declared in 96 overs and 150 for two declared (R. Harden 50 not out, J. Hardy 47 not out, N. Burns 40). Kent 203 for nine declared in 73 overs (G. Rose four for 59) and 232 for eight (M. Benson 116, S. Hinks 55; G. Rose four for 55). Kent four points, Somerset eight.

At Harrogate: Yorkshire v Surrey — match drawn. Yorkshire 254 in 96 overs (P. Robinson 85, P. Carrick 64; M. Bicknell three for 40, Waqar Younis three for 56) and 26 for one declared. Surrey forfeited first innings and 280 for nine (I. Greig 72, D. Ward 71, G. Thorpe 44, C. White five for 74). Yorkshire three points, Surrey 12.

Farr may design Cup defender

SAN DIEGO, California, June 13. (Reuters) There's a 50-50 chance that New Zealand's Bruce Farr will design America's Cup defender's next America's Cup defender, Conner's team operations manager said yesterday.

Bill Trenkle said negotiations have been going off and on, since early last year when Farr sent Conner a proposal to sell him a basic design kit for the new America's Cup class 75-foot (23-metre) yacht.

If Farr were to work exclusively for Conner, he would have to end his association with New Zealand's Michael Fay, whose renegade challenge signalled the death of the 12-metre yacht as the official America's Cup class.

The number of entries for the 1992 America's Cup yacht race has risen to 21 with the acceptance of the Soviet Union's Leningrad Yacht Club.

The entry deadline, with a \$25,000 fee was May 25, but the Leningrad Club was given a two-week extension because of problems in transferring money to the United States, a spokesman from the America's Cup organising committee said yesterday.

Strange seeks 3rd straight US Open title

MEDINAH, Illinois, June 13. (Reuters) The number three has taken on great significance at this year's US Open golf championship, which starts tomorrow at the daunting Medinah Country Club west of Chicago.

American Curtis Strange will be shooting for his third successive US Open title — a feat only achieved 85 years ago when Willie Anderson completed three straight in 1905 at Massachusetts' Myopia Hunt Club.

Nick Faldo of Britain, the US masters champion and tournament favourite, needs to sweep the other three major championships this year to pull off an unprecedented Grand Slam.

And American Payne Stewart, the hottest player in world golf right now, would make it three wins in two months while consolidating his new position as the world-ranked number three if he won here.

To match the Scottish-born Anderson, Strange will have to conquer the number three course at Medinah Country Club — at 7,195 yards the longest layout ever used for a US Open.

This is the third Open to be staged at Medinah, where narrow fairways and small, sloping, well-guarded greens have kept par from being broken over 72 holes in the two majors it has hosted.

On top of that, players say three



Spain's Jose Ballesteros (right) cracks a joke with Peter Jacobsen, of the US, during practice at Medinah for the US Open. (Reuters wirephoto)

of the par threes, which require tee shots over Lake Kadish, pose some of the greatest dangers on a course that could see scores soar if the familiar Chicago wind decides to blow.

And besides the threes, there are all those trees — 3,700 of them framing the fairways.

Strange knows the odds are against him matching Anderson's feat — and he expects to surrender the trophy he has held for two years. "The odds are very much in favour of me going home without it," he said.

Faldo, the Las Vegas oddsmakers' choice as the favourite at

Medinah, retained his US Masters title in April and a victory at Medinah would take him halfway to the Grand Slam with the British Open and US PGA Championships remaining.

Faldo and Strange, two of the most consistent par-makers in golf, have gone head-to-head in a US Open before. They finished tied after 72 holes at Brookline in 1988 before the American won an 18-hole playoff.

The length at Medinah is a boon for long hitters — provided they hit straight.

Despite its demands, the top players agreed Medinah is in excellent shape and presents a fair challenge to the field of 156.

"It's a beautiful, old style golf course," said Australian Greg Norman, the world's number one ranked golfer and leading money winner on the US Tour this year with earnings of nearly \$300,000.

"The course is perfect. This is one of the fairest open courses. I like it because it's not pretentious. What you see is what you get. There are no hidden tricks."

Other leading contenders include Stewart, the reigning US PGA champion who has also been second twice in recent weeks, and straight-shooting Tom Kite, who lost control during the final round of last year's open with a terrible triple bogey seven at the 5th hole.

Kite, golf's leading all-time

money winner, has never won a major title.

Three other winners on a roll from last week will be on hand. American Wayne Levi won the Western Open at nearby Butler National for his second win in three weeks and Craig Stadler fired a sensational last-round 61 as he won the Scandinavian Open.

And then there is 50-year-old Jack Nicklaus. The Golden Bear, winner of 21 major championships, paraded his form at last week's senior tournament players championship to win with an incredible 27-under-par total.

Such low scores are almost unthinkable at Medinah. Par golf could prove sufficient to win.

In 1949, Medinah's first Open, Cary Middlecoff won by two shots over Sam Snead and Clayton Heafner with a two-over-par total of 286. Lou Graham won the 1975 Open with three-over-par 287.

The revamped course now plays to a par of 72 but Chicago's unpredictable weather and wind could make that a commendable score.

Weather left a bad taste at the 1975 Open, which was marred by heavy rain.

Straw was hauled over from the nearby Arlington Park race track and laid down to help spectators walk on the course. Sunshine later dried the straw and mud, producing a most foul odour.



Above and below: shots from Friday's competition

Laser Summer Series ends

THE Messilah Beach Laser Sailing Club completed its Summer Series of 12 races this Friday following six weeks of tough competition.

Twelve competitors took part in the series but with two races left to go only 1 point separated the first five places. The last two races turned out to be the most testing of the whole series with the wind averaging 15 to 20 knots. During the morning race Jim Gould and Siabonne Barker both had trouble keeping their boats upright and with disappointing results dropped out of the race for first place.

Dave Clark, despite breaking a pulley on his mainsheet in the rough conditions, managed to win the morning race, following an instant repair job with his ever handy piece of kevlar rope. Dave Reeve was second and Roger Brown third.

This result meant that in the final afternoon race any one of these three could win the series. With the wind still at 20 knots all three competitors fought for position on the start line. Unfortunately Dave Reeve took his eye off his stop watch, to inspect the underneath of his hull, and mistimed his start. With Dave Reeve stuck at the wrong end of the line Dave Clark very narrowly, cut in front of Roger Brown at the port-buoy to take the lead. Despite their best attempts nobody could catch Dave Clark who won and therefore clinched the series. Roger Brown was second and David Reeve third.

Messilah Beach Laser Club has the largest fleet of regularly racing dinghies in Kuwait. Anybody interested in joining to compete or simply learn to sail can do so. Nearly half of the members only started sailing when they came to Kuwait a year or two ago, and they are now regular competitors every week in all conditions.

Anybody interested in joining the club can call David Clark on 2451791 or David Reeve on 5711209 or go down to Messilah Beach Hotel any Friday from 10.00 am onwards.

Best time missed

LA LAGUNA, Spain, June 13. (AP) Jamaican sprinter Merlene Ottey almost ran this year's fastest time in the women's 200-metre dash yesterday, but she got too much help from the wind.

Running in the 2nd annual Tenerife International track meet, Ottey zipped through the race in 22.08 seconds — a time that would have been the year's best and a Spanish national mark but for the strong wind.

Foreman becomes 'somebody' again

LAS VEGAS, June 13. (Reuters) George Foreman knew that he was becoming less of a joke when the boy next door wanted to talk to him and top-ranked contenders did not.

Foreman will meet the toughest test of his two-year-old comeback, some say delusion, to regain the heavyweight title when he fights Brazilian Jose Adilson Rodrigues on Saturday night's undercard of the Mike Tyson-Henry Tillman bout.

When Foreman, old for the ring and overweight by any standards, first announced his attempt to win back the title he last held in 1974 before losing it to Muhammad Ali, he was widely ridiculed for impersonating Don Quixote, debating the sport and running a serious risk of permanent injury.

But his second-round knockout of Gerry Cooney — not exactly young either but still a dangerous puncher — last January made Foreman less of a joke and more of a curiosity.

Pretty soon fight people could be heard whispering the old fight adage — "the guy has a puncher's chance" instead of saying he belonged in a dark tent off the boardwalk in boxing's freak show.

Foreman sat down to a meal — what else? — yesterday and said he knew he had made an impression on the world after the Cooney fight when the teenaged boy next door came over to see him.

"I'd had 20 some-odd boxing matches — one knockout after another. But this Gerry Cooney fight was so highly publicised ... I came home after the fight, there he was waiting on me. 'Good fight' (the boy said). He never said that in all the two years or so I've been boxing," Foreman said.

"So I started thinking, 'Wow, I'm somebody now'."

The other sign his comeback was making some headway, the 270-pound (122 kg) Foreman said between bites of roasted chicken and mashed potatoes and gravy, was when other fighters did not want to fight him.

"The top guys had a chance to warm up on me and decided, 'uh, uh, we'll choose Seamus McDonagh (who was easily knocked out two weeks ago by number one contender Evander Holyfield), or we'll do Henry Tillman,' that's satisfying," Foreman said.

"Holyfield could have made more money fighting me ... why did he turn that down?" he said rhetorically and then nodded his head when it was suggested that Holyfield did not want a real test when he was so close to fighting for the heavyweight title.

Foreman was asked his opinion of the state of Tyson's mind following his 10th-round knockout last February by James "Buster" Douglas.

Foreman said being knocked out was like having heart-by-pass surgery. "There's a real soreness and then it takes years, after while you know it's there ... but it takes years to go away. A knockout is the same fashion. 'After a while it's all over with but there is a certain soreness that's there that has to be healed it takes two years sometimes.'"

"Six months is not enough time, especially for a 23-year-old guy," he said, referring to Tyson's recovery from his knockout. He said there is a big question whether Tyson can come back to retake his title.

"Either we've seen the best of Mike Tyson, or the best is yet to come."

He's just a babe, just a babe. He's got stages. He's only in the first stage."

Foreman said he lost the soreness of being knocked out and losing the title after an interview in 1979, after he had been asked what happened against Ali.

"I said: 'I lost. I actually lost. I got proof. I got films to prove that I lost,'" Foreman said.

"From then on I was free. Healed, but it was hard. I never could have admitted that. I said: 'I lost. He beat me. He actually dropped me and whipped me.' From then on the healing was intact."

Confident Romanians aim to end Cameroon's World Cup glory

BARI, June 13, (Reuters): Romania, boosted by the return of classy midfielder Gheorghe Hagi, believe they will end Cameroon's World Cup glory by beating them comfortably in their Group B clash tomorrow.

Lacatus says it will be 2-0," team spokesman Ioan Ovidiu said today. Lacatus scored both goals in the 2-0 defeat of the Soviet Union in Romania's opening match.

Hagi will replace either Daniel Timofte or Ionut Lupescu in midfield. Defender Gheorghe Popescu has recovered from a thigh injury and will play, Ovidiu said.

Romania plan to study a video of Cameroon's 1-0 victory over champions Argentina after training to finish their preparations.

Although Cameroon have defender Benjamin Masing and midfielder Andre Kana-Biyik suspended after they were sent off against Argentina, they are setting out to capture both points.

"I must go for a win. If you go out to draw, you will lose," Cameroon's Soviet-born manager Valery Nepomniachy said.

But in a reference to the suspensions he said: "If you lose a player it's a big problem. If you lose two players it's a very big problem."

Kickoff: Thursday 6 pm (Kuwait time)

World Cup Notebook

Fan jailed

CAGLIARI, June 13, (Reuters): An English soccer fan was given a six-month jail sentence today after he was found guilty of pushing two Italians off a motorcycle and starting a fight. Court officials in Cagliari said Warren Baines, 19, had admitted charges of bodily harm, assault and criminal damage during last night's incident under a plea bargaining arrangement.

Panicky police

CAGLIARI, June 13, (Reuters): Peaceful English soccer fans say their holiday at the World Cup finals has become a nightmare because of panicky police and suspicious Sardinians are treating them as hooligans. "Everywhere you go it's just 'hooligan', 'hooligan'," said Martin O'Dermott, a 21-year-old student from Wigan in northern England. "All the coppers (police) have been giving us grief for no reason."

Dope test

ROME, June 13, (Reuters): Argentine captain Diego Maradona was among 36 players routinely dope tested after the first nine games of the World Cup finals.

Early start

ROME, June 13, (Reuters): A religious procession led by Pope John Paul II will start an hour early tomorrow to enable Italians to watch their World Cup team play the United States.

Notice served

ROME, June 13, (Reuters): Rome restaurateurs yesterday served notice that they could not guarantee normal service or may close while World Cup alcohol bans are in effect.

Alcohol ban

FLORENCE, June 13, (Reuters): Officials from American cities bidding to stage the World Cup finals in the United States in 1994 doubt they could impose an alcohol ban on match days.

Violence deplored

ERBA, Italy, June 13, (Reuters): The West German Football Federation (DFB) yesterday condemned the violence involving Germans before and after the World Cup match against Yugoslavia in Milan.

Fans wounded

CAGLIARI, June 13, (Reuters): Two soccer fans were wounded by shotgun blasts and one was badly knifed during a brawl on the French island of Corsica. British officials said today. The nationality of the wounded fans was not immediately known.

Robson injured

CAGLIARI, June 13, (Reuters): Captain Bryan Robson was a notable absentee today when England trained in preparation for Saturday's potential World Cup showdown with the Netherlands. Robson stubbed and skinned a toe during England's 1-1 draw with Ireland.

Reports denied

ERBA, Italy, June 13, (AP): West German World Cup midfielder Lothar Matthaus denied reports yesterday that he had not performed at his best in the recently-concluded Italian Soccer League season.

TV smashed

LONDON, June 13, (Reuters): An English pub landlord has given his verdict on the World Cup soccer finals by smashing the bar television with an axe. Customers at the Old Inn in Roborough, southwest England, voted to get rid of the set because World Cup viewing was spoiling conversation.

Spain hold Uruguay 0-0

Sosa misses penalty

UDINE, Italy, June 13, (Reuters): Uruguay's Ruben Sosa today spoiled one of the best performances of the World Cup so far by missing a penalty that would have given Uruguay victory over Spain instead of a 0-0 draw.

The exciting Group E clash, bringing together the last two teams to get into World Cup action, ended goalless despite great efforts by Sosa and Uruguayan captain Enzo Francescoli.

The pair mesmerised the Spanish defence with jinking runs and silky skills, but just could not convert them into goals.

Sosa, who had done everything right for more than an hour, blew all his efforts away in the 72nd minute.

Nelson Gutierrez's header from a corner beat Spanish goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta but Francisco Villaroja handled to prevent a goal.

Sosa stepped up to the penalty spot for what should have been an easy winner, but instead blasted the ball away over the bar. He held his head in his hands in anguish.

The result left both teams still well in contention in Group E, the tightest-balanced opening round group which also includes Belgium and South Korea.

Four players, two from each side, were booked in a physical and lively, but rarely dirty encounter.

Defender Jose Perdomo was booked as

early as the 11th minute for an ugly tackle on Spanish captain Emilio Butragueno, apparently reviving Uruguay's reputation for rough play.

Uruguay missed a good chance around the half-hour mark when Spanish goalkeeper Andoni Zubizarreta was forced to make a fingertip save, pushing the ball on to the bar from Antonio Alzamendi's shot.

The Uruguayans were already showing signs of good understanding between each other and in the second half Zubizarreta was called on to make a series of key saves, including diving at the feet of Ruben Paz.

The only time he was clearly beaten was in the penalty incident.



Spain's defender Francisco Villaroja (right) stops the ball going into the goal with his arm. The referee awarded a penalty which Sosa missed. (Reuters wirephoto)



Ruben Pereira (on the ground) and Spain's Miguel Chendo collide. (Reuters wirephoto)

Standings

Standings in World Cup first-round play after today's matches (tabulate matches played, won, drawn, lost, goals for-against, points):

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E	Group F
Czechoslovakia	1	1	1	1	1
Italy	1	1	1	1	1
Austria	1	1	1	1	1
United States	1	1	1	1	1
Group B	1	1	1	1	1
Romania	1	1	1	1	1
Cameroon	1	1	1	1	1
Argentina	1	1	1	1	1
Soviet Union	1	1	1	1	1
Group C	1	1	1	1	1
Brazil	1	1	1	1	1
Costa Rica	1	1	1	1	1
Sweden	1	1	1	1	1
Scotland	1	1	1	1	1
Group D	1	1	1	1	1
West Germany	1	1	1	1	1
Colombia	1	1	1	1	1
UAE	1	1	1	1	1
Yugoslavia	1	1	1	1	1
Group E	1	1	1	1	1
Belgium	1	1	1	1	1
Uruguay	1	1	1	1	1
Spain	1	1	1	1	1
South Korea	1	1	1	1	1
Group F	1	1	1	1	1
England	1	1	1	1	1
Ireland	1	1	1	1	1
Netherlands	1	1	1	1	1
Egypt	1	1	1	1	1

Note: Result of Argentina-Soviet Union match has not been included.

Pele slams Brazilian squad

TURIN, Italy, June 13, (UPI): Brazil's legendary soccer player, Edson Arantes do Nascimento, better known as "Pele," criticised Brazil's World Cup squad in an article published today.

Pele, 49, attacked the strategy employed by Brazilian manager Sebastiao Lazaroni. He also offered an analysis of Brazil's 2-1 victory over Sweden in Group C last Sunday in Turin.

"Neither Brazil nor Sweden played well," Pele said in an article published by Italy's Gazzetta dello Sport. "The truth is that both teams played badly and that was confirmed by the whistling of the public," Pele said.

Pele, who was instrumental in the Brazilian teams that won the World Cup in 1958, 1962 and 1970, said the South American team "is very different from those that played in the (World Cup) tournaments of 1958 and 1962."

"Lazaroni's fundamental doctrine is to get the best results. The philosophy is that to play badly and win is better than to play well and lose," said Pele.

He added that Lazaroni "sometimes forgets that it is possible to play well and win," and he gave as an example West Germany's and Romania's victories in their opening matches.

"For me what counts is beautiful soccer," said Pele.

Pele admitted the match against Sweden wasn't a "total disillusionment."

He praised goalkeeper Claudio Taffarel and striker Carlos, who grabbed both of Brazil's goals, but he said striker Muller failed on several chances which a third striker, Bebeto or Romario, would not have allowed to escape.

He criticised Lazaroni for using only two strikers instead of three.

Pele predicted Brazil's match against Costa Rica next Saturday "won't be as easy as we imagined a month ago."

The Costa Ricans, playing in their first World Cup finals, upset Scotland 1-0 in their opening match.

Berti replaces Ancelotti in US match

MARINO, Italy, June 13, (Reuters): Internazionale's Nicola Berti, an attacking midfielder, will take injured Carlo Ancelotti's place in the Italian side to play the United States in the World Cup Group A match tomorrow.

"Berti will take on Ancelotti's role, though he might push forward a little," Vicini said after a training session outside Rome today.

Berti has won 11 caps and last played for his country in their 0-0 draw with England at Wembley in November last year.

Ancelotti, who plays a pivotal role in the Italian midfield, coaching and encouraging his team mates throughout the game, should be fit for Italy's third first round match against Czechoslovakia next Tuesday.

Vicini said that although the United States were their weakest opponents, Italy would be wary and equally as determined as during their 1-0 win over Austria in their first group match.

Apart from Berti, chosen in preference to Juventus' Giancarlo Marocchi for the midfield role, the team remains unchanged from Saturday's line-up.

Team - Walter Zenga (1), Franco Baresi (2), Giuseppe Bergomi (3), Riccardo Ferri (6), Paolo Maldini (7), Nicola Berti (10), Fernando de Napoli (11), Giuseppe Giannini (13), Andrea Carnevale (16), Roberto Donadoni (17), Gianluca Vialli (21).

Kickoff: Thursday, 10 pm (Kuwait time).



Soccer hooligans

Some West German soccer hooligans being brought to a court in Milan, Italy, yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Colombia name side

BOLOGNA, June 13, (Reuters): Striker Arnoldo Iguaran will start Colombia's important World Cup Group D match against Yugoslavia tomorrow in an unchanged line-up, team officials said today.

Iguaran played 75 minutes of Saturday's opening group match against the United Arab Emirates, which Colombia won 2-0, despite not having fully recovered from a leg injury.

"The line-up will be the same as the one used against the United Arab Emirates," a spokeswoman for Colombian coach Francisco Maturana said. "Iguaran is fine and he will play."

Maturana declared the 33-year-old Millionarios striker fit yesterday but said then he was wondering whether to replace him in a bid to shake up the tactics which often left Colombia bogged down in midfield against the Arab side.

Colombia, who failed to win a match in their only previous trip to the World Cup finals 28 years ago, would be virtually guaranteed a second-round place if they beat the Yugoslavs at Bologna's Dall'Ara Stadium.

Colombian team - Rene Higuita (1), Luis Fernando Herrera (4), Luis Carlos Perea (15), Andres Escobar (2), Gildardo Gomez (3), Leonel Alvarez (14), Gabriel Gomez (8), Carlos Valderrama (10), Bernardo Redin (11), Arnoldo Iguaran (16), Freddy Rincon (19).

Maturana will not announce his substitutes until tomorrow.

Kickoff: Thursday, 6 pm (Kuwait time).

Frenchman recalls first goal in 1930 World Cup finals

BESANCON, France, June 13, (AP): When Cameroon's Francois Omam scored the first goal of this year's World Cup, Lucien Laurent knew the feeling. The Frenchman scored the very first goal of the inaugural tournament 60 years ago.

Now, at 82, Laurent follows the current World Cup matches when he

isn't kicking a soccer ball. "I am trying to watch every single day, every match I can," Laurent said between shouts when he saw another goal the other day on television.

Laurent still plays soccer at least once a week, on the same field where he used to coach after his career as a player ended

more than 40 years ago.

In 1930 when Uruguay hosted the World Cup, France and Mexico met in the opening match. At that time Laurent wasn't a hero in the new world of soccer, just a midfielder.

But after 10 minutes, he scored. Laurent, known as "Lulu" to his friends, recalled the now-historic kick. "I

took the ball straight out of the air and shot it past Bonfiglio, scoring 1-0," he said. "In those days I got a few pats on the back and that was it."

After the World Cup, he added only one more goal in his international career, a year later when France beat England 5-2.

French coach unhappy with victory

BRISBANE, Australia, June 13, (Reuters): France scored four tries to beat Australian Universities 26-19 today, but French coach Jacques Fouroux said he would rather forget his side's third victory of their eight-match rugby union tour.

"Let's not talk about today, it wasn't a match," Fouroux said after another whistle-happy performance by a referee stunted his side's performance.

Local referee Phil Thomas gave 14 second half penalties in succession against the French.

In the first Test on Saturday, which Australia won 21-9, English referee Tony Spreadbury sent off flanker Abdel Benazzi in his debut for France and bemused both sides with his constant whistling.

France were always on top against Universities, who were led by Wallaby captain Nick Farr-Jones.

Australian flyhalf Michael Lynagh, fullback Greg Martin and second rower Peter Fitzsimons withdrew from the side yesterday and the team's lack of cohesion was evident.

Tony Merlo, Lynagh's replacement as goalkicker, kept his side in the game by potting five penalty goals, but he also wasted five relatively simple chances as France were hampered by the referee in the



France's Thierry Dervergie (No 7) tries to get the ball. (Reuters wirephoto)

second half.

"We could have lost. We didn't score enough tries," Fouroux said.

The French defence only buckled once when winger Pierre Hontas attempted to ground the ball in the first half. Unfortunately it slid from underneath him

Tyson still 'baddest' fighter on the planet

LAS VEGAS, June 13, (Reuters): Can Mike Tyson, who still considers himself the 'baddest' fighter on the planet, be turning philosopher?

As the clock ticks down to his comeback fight on Saturday, Tyson does not conjure up visions of great fighters struggling heroically to recapture their titles.

Instead, Tyson seems to be humming the words from a song by Peggy Lee which questioned life and asked: "Is that all there is?"

The 23-year-old former heavyweight champion insists he is happy and is as ready to talk about his new song as about what will happen in the ring on Saturday night.

But Tyson is clearly a more thoughtful person than before the night in Tokyo four months ago when his world collapsed.

He wants people to know he has matured a lot recently and seems constantly to be wondering wistfully if life has more to offer him.

Tyson may know some answers after his Saturday bout with lightly regarded Henry Tillman

which will be the his first fight since losing the heavyweight title to James "Buster" Douglas last February in Tokyo.

Tyson still considers himself the 'baddest' fighter on the planet.

How, if you lost your last fight, can you say that?

"I had one bad night. I had 37 good nights," he said, referring to the Tokyo loss and his 37-0 record before he was knocked out in the 10th round in Tokyo.

"If I was to stop fighting right now and if those guys were to continue to fight for three or five years I don't think they would accomplish what I did in my short time fighting," Tyson said about Douglas and the other heavyweights.

Tyson gave his views on the past, present and future at a news conference with reporters late yesterday evening, following angry complaints to promoter Don King by reporters who had been stood up for days by Tyson after being promised interviews.

Tyson has ordered his workouts closed to the media and public much earlier than for past fights.

Lendl, Becker, Edberg win

LONDON, June 13, (Reuters): World number one Ivan Lendl, who skipped the French Open to practice on grass, reaped the benefits when he beat Australian Simon Youl 6-4 6-2 in the second round of the London Grass Tennis Championships yesterday.

But any advantage he might have gained by not playing at Roland Garros may have vanished when Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg were both beaten in the first round in Paris.

The double shock freed both men to begin their grass court preparation two weeks earlier than they had planned for the June 25 start of Wimbledon.

They, too, both had decisive opening match victories at Queen's Club on Thursday.

Becker, the reigning Wimbledon and US Open champion, repulsed a spirited challenge from American Paul Chamberlin 6-4 6-4.

Edberg won the first nine games in a crushing victory 6-0 6-3 over Markus Zöckle of West Germany.

Lendl, the 30-year-old US-based Czechoslovak, has won the US and French Opens three times each and the Australian Open twice.



Ivan Lendl

But Wimbledon has eluded him and for the past two months he has dedicated himself to preparing for the 1990 championship which starts in two weeks.

"I should feel more comfortable on grass than a year ago

because I've had so much more time on it, and I do," he said after beating Youl.

He is defending this title fresh from winning the Beckenham event on Sunday.

Wimbledon, however, is not an all-or-nothing situation for him. "I bust up there, too bad. But I don't regard it as my last attempt," he said.

Becker, beaten by Yugoslav teen-ager Goran Ivanisevic in the first round in Paris, is still trying to figure out what happened.

"I've thought a lot about it and I can't tell you yet. I need to think more," he said. "But I've had 10 days practice on grass, more than I planned."

"The good thing in tennis is that there is always another important tournament to go to. It was important for me to win today," he said after beating Chamberlin, who he defeated for the loss of just three games in the Wimbledon quarterfinals last year.

Two seeds lost yesterday. Number eight Wally Masur of Australia bowed 5-7 6-4 8-6 to Danny Sapsford of Britain, and number 10 Henri Leconte of France went down 6-1 6-7 6-1 to American David Pate.

ARAB TIMES

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Annual Subscriptions:

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